

1

BURNSIDE FROMAN
COLLECTION

LUPIN" ARSENE

A DRAMA

IN

Four

THREER ACTS.

Francis de Croisset and thanvice Leblanc

Produced by Charles Frohman at the Lyceum

Theatre , N.Y.126 Augu

1709

1070

CHARACTERS.

ARSENE LUPIN:

GUERCHARD:

GOURNAY -MARTIN :

EXAMINING -MAGISTRATE :

CHAROLAIS, the elder.

CHAROLAIS THREE SONS, HIPPOLYTE, ANASTASE
& BERNARD .

COMMISSARY OF POLICE:

JANITOR :

BOURSIN :

FIRMIN :

AGENT OF POLICE :

JEAN , a Chauffeur.

BONAVERT :

ALFRED , a Footman .

SONIA :

GERMAINE :

VICTOIRE :

JEANNE :

MARIE :

JANI TRESS :

THE NEWYOUR PADARY

REFERENDE DEA

IRMA , a Maid .

53XAA)

AIRE DOLLECTION

ARSENE LUPIN

ACT 1

Garden Drop

Balustrade

Tapistry

Jignatur Outside Shutters

FrenchWindows

Balustrade (set oblique as indicated)

13aby

Grand Rena

Outside Shutters

MFrench Windows

OLarge

Chiffonier

Plant

Seat

Large

Vate

Pedestal

Interior

DOUBLE Glass Doors

DOORS

Smallroundtable

R

Desk

Table

B Dohair

ArmChair Chair

Telephone

TableM

PaperBasket

Tea table

carried on

0 N

+d

So Chair Table

Chair

Carpet over stage

--ACT

SCENE: - The Drawing -Room of a French
at back a terrace .

DISCOVERED: - SONIA , alone seated in chair C at
writing table R.H. addressing

Outside are hearing GERMAINE ,

and MARIE playing tennis and

"Thirty , Forty, game, " etc. A

ripple of laughter.

Chateau .

letters .

JEANNE

calling

Sonia

(Reading)

"Monsieur Gournay - Martin has the honor to inform
you of the
approaching marriage of his daughter Germaine with
the Duke
of Charmerace . "

(Repeating reflectively)

The Duke of Charmerace !

Germaine

(Heard off C. L.)

Sonia ! Sonia

Sonia

(Calling)

What is it, Mademoiselle ?

Tea . Order tea!

Germaine

Sonia

Very well , Mademoiselle .

(Rises and. rings bell at back L.)

(ENTER ALFRED L. 2. E. remains L. C. near door)

oh --- tea at once , please , Alfred .

For how many, Mademoiselle ?

Alfred

Sonia

For four . That is, unless
home?

H&M. Gournay -Martin come

Alfred

Oh, no, ademoiselle . He took the roadster, and went
to Rennes
ait be back for an hour.

2

Sonia

Anne Duce the Duka went out riding . Has
returned ? his grave

Alfred

Not , yet , Mademoiselle .

Sonia

The servants start for Paris this afternoon ?

Alfred

We are all ready, Mademoiselle ..

Sonia

Thank you, and now for tea, please .

(EXIT ALFRED L. 2 E. SONIA crosses and again to
one at writing table R and resumes waiting .)

Waiting)

Sonia

"Monsieur Gournay - Martin has the honor to inform
you of the

approaching marriage of his daughter Germaine. "

(Pauses : looks up - ENTER GERMAINE C. L.

running .

She goes directly down C. then lays her racquet
chair " O")

Germaine

What are you doing , Sonia? Why aren't you writing ?

Sitting + Sonia

on

Resuming her work.)

I am, I am .

(ENTER MARIE and JEANNE C.L. following

GERMAINE.

MARIE goes to head of table B. (R : H .)

SONIA .

JEANNE behind

Marie

Are all these invitations to your wedding

Germaine

Every one . And wala Beached the letter V.
(By chair Q - is putting her racquet in its case ..)
(Reading ever
Jeanne
Ahouider)
gets case and puts
eeee-of -Vernon Duchess of Vauvineusewhat swells !
(Up to piano, puts racquet on it
racquet in case .)
You wont know ponu
Chapmanage

-
heus when youre - Duchess of
(MARIE gets her case from chair R. and puts her
racquet
in it.)

RIA

(Writing)

Sonia

"Madame de Vauleglise . "

Germaine

(Coming down stage in front of sofa 0.)-

(Meditating .)

ought she to have a single , double , or triple cross?

Marie

(Surprised)

What do you mean by that ?

(Lc.)

Sunday .

the

Germaine

one cross-invitation to the church ; two crosses invitation to church and breakfast; three crosses

invitation

to church , breakfast and dance afterwards .

Jeanne

(Down C. and sitting on sofa 0. MARIE sits on arm of chair R. GERMAINE remains standing C.)

We don't know her ---

to Germaine

She's rather a cat , but she goes to church three times on

Marie

Then give her three crosses .

Why not consult your fiancé?

Jeanne

Germaine

Jacques ? He's bored to death with all this. Oh , dear !
oh dear ! He has so changed in seven years . Seven
years ago he
sailed for the South Pole just because " exploring"
was the
fashion . Now he scoffs at fashion . He's as prim as a
school
master and fashion sets his teeth on edge .

Sonia

(In chair R. and before writing table. Looking up)

He can be as lively as a nickety-mademoiselle .

He appears to me very

happy , mademoiselle . Germaine

Yes , but only when he's making fun of people .

Usually , he's

as serious as an old magpie .

Jeanne

Your father is delighted at the change in him .

-

Germaine

He's a Duke, you see : So everything he does is right .

Soja, (Going up ; suddenly stops before piano up

R.C.)Who put that statuette there?

(Astonished) J

Sonia

I don't know; when he came in, it was over there , as usual .

(ENTER ALFRED with tea L. 2. B. on mall tea table(whichheplacesC.betweenchairQandendof sofa 0.)

Germaine

Alfred , were you in the drawing -room while we were in the garden ?

Alfred

No , Mademoiselle .

Has anybody been here?

Germaine

Alfred

I didn't hear anybody . I was in the pantry .

Germaine

How very odd .

(Gives statuette to ALFRED who places it on chiffonier

L. he then closes the doors at back and is going

L.2.8 .)

Has anyone telephoned from Paris ?

Alfred

Not yet , Mademoiselle .

(Paetens the right half of door b.2.B. EXITS L.2.3.

SONIA rises, comes above the table C. and pours out
a cup
of tea.)

(Moves down C) Germaine

Nobody has telephoned . How annoying. And not a
single wed-

ding present all day - not even a pair of fish knives .

(Gives MARIX a cup of tea; then takes cup of tea to
JEANNE.(alud closesglass doors then exits L.2.2.)

Sonia

Well , it's Sunday , you see . Nothing can be delivered
today .

Is the dear Duke coming to tea with us ?

Jeanne

Germaine

(Returns to C. sits on chair Q, and takes cup of tea
which SONIA OFFERS HER .

persons

Of course ,I expect him at halfpast four thewenz
riding with George and Andry durand and his
goning &being them back with her.

maine

Marieha

When did you go riding with the Durands ?

This afternoon.

Germaines

Oh , no , he didn't , really . My brother was to have
lunched

with them today and found they were both out ; not
expected

home till late .

Marie

Germaine

(Surprised .)

Really !

(Then half to herself .)

What ever made him tell me such a lie ?

(ENTER IRMA, a Maid R. 2. E. GERMAINE rises and
goes a little to R. Puts cup on table .)

Irma

Some one wants to speak to you from Paris ,
Mademoiselle .

(MARIS rises and crosses to JEANNE , sitting on
sofa beside her

(x's phone)

How exciting! It's the janitress.

(Goes to chair C. in front of writing table B. , sits
and telephones,)

No. It's Victoire , the caretaker , Mademoiselle ,
Irma

(EXIT IRMA R. 2. E.)

(Mariemee + x & Jeanne , setting

(R. H. BUS:

Germaine

phoning.)

Hello! Is that you, Victoire ?

have arrived .

open them

Oh dear

(Listens in telephone)

on sofa 0 beside her) J.

Yes ? More presents

(TO SONIA .)

Openmbhem!

er Louis AV

Who from? Gombas

Splendid!

Rudolfe ,

(TO BONIA)

Thereys se

Sonia ! Bolet A pearl necklace!

Bent 60 A friend of father

обpativ Lock it in the safe --

you tomorrow , Victoire.

Big Pearls?

Bfg perity big

How Lovely whowww

Just think, a necklace

Yes , thanks , I'll see

6

201 (Returns blableP)taito in shair 2 Germaine

It's so funny! Father's dull old friends are giving
me delicious jewelry , while the smart people send
nothing

- just because Jacques is not letting everyone know
we

are engaged .

Jeanne

It hasn't been properly advertised .

Germaine

Please don't be funny! His cousin , Mme . de

Relzieres,

is the only one who seems to know .

Jeanne

of She-- Why her son is fighting a duel today .

With whom ?

Sonid

Marie

Nobody knows . She picked up a letter dropped by

one of

the seconds .

Germaine

She needn't worry about Relzieres , he is the finest

fencer in Paris

He knew your fiance long ago , didn't he?

Jeanne

Germaine

It was through him we knew Jacques .

one of

Germaine

It was through him we knew Jacques .

Marie

Sesine

In this chateau.

In -Jacques House

Marie Ir

of his How did you become engaged to the Duke ?

полет

Germaine

father

fathar

Why father adaired the Duke's old historical place ,
so the Duke invited us to visit his then he promptly
fell in love with me. As he wanted money for his
expedition

to the South Pole, father bought his chateau . And
that's

how I became engaged to the Duke .

Ca

Everything

. Father wan

no Jangan invited us to visit

and fathers cured, while

Daddy bought

atau wuld be dump,

in love with h

Marie

Germaine

Yes, I was only sixteen . So Jacques went off to the

South

Pole .

Jeanne

Why?

Germaine

Father thought me too young to be engaged . Se I

promised

Jacques to wait till he came back -- only between

ourselves...

if I had known he was going to be so long at the South

Pole--

Mariee

Seven years is a long time , isn't it?

Jeanne

4

But you were only sixteen .

Almost all the best years of your life , poor dear .

Germaine

Thanks .

Well , but you're 23 now , aren't you?

Jeanne

(inves tothan R)

Germaine

I shall be soon. Well I suffered tortures . The Duke
fell ill, and was nursed at Montevideo . As soon as he
got

well , he went off for another two years -- then all at
once

we could get no news of him at all . For six months we
7

thought he was dead .

(Sits armchair " R " R. C.)

Spnia

You must have been very unhappy .

Germaine

I was For months and months I didn't dare to wear a
color-

ed frock . (Sana moves upstage a little C)

Jeanne

(Sarcastically .)

What agonies you must have endured .

(SONTA good up at age a little 0.)

Germaine

However , the Duke had the grace to put me out of
suspense at

last . He telegraphed that he was safe and well , and
three

months ago the Duke came home ..

Jeanne

(Mocking : to MARIK .)

The Duke ! The Duke!

And in all this time you never fell in love with
someone else?

Marie

I didn't fall in love but I came near becoming engaged

--

Germaine

Marie

To whom ?

Germaine

The Duke's cousin , M. de Relzières.

Jeanne

But you say you didn't love him ?

Marie

How could she ? He's a mere Baron , you see .

And Jacques was a duke .

Jeanne

(MARIE rises, JEANNE rises and goes upbraround
table N up to piano and getting racques)

Well , well ; we must fly.

5 Germaine

(Rises to C.)

Germaine

Marie

(Moving a little up C. Affectedby)

Yes , we promised to call on the Viscountess of
Grosjean .

(Carelessly .)

Do you know the Viscountess of Grosjean?

(SONIA comes down R. near chair "C" in front of writ-
ing table .)

Germaine

Father knew her husband on the Bourse when he was
plain Mr.

Grosjean . Father keeps the name he inherited from

his

Ancestors.

(grosses down L. MARIE goes to arm chair R. to get her racquet.)

Jeanne

(Going up to MARIE-aside .)

any ancestors ?

(TO GERMAINE.)

We shall see you in Paris ?

(JEANNE kisses GERMAINE and goes up C.)

Yes. Tomorrow .

Germaine

Goodbye .

Marie

(Kisses her and up C. joins JJEANNE .)

Goodbye , dear , good bye.

(ALFRED appears C. from L. and holds C. doors open for them .)

Regards to the dear Duke .

Marie & Jeanne

(TOGETHER.)

Au revoir .

(They go out C. to L. GERMAINE escorts them up

and

remains R. C. near piano. ALFRED holding open the door for them . SONIA sits down R. H.)

Alfred

Are you at home to two gentlemen, Mademoiselle ?
(TO SONIA .)

Germaine

The Durands , I suppose .

(To ALFRED .)

Ask them to come in?

Has Mademoiselle my orders for Victoire or the
concierges

any Alfred

in Paris ?

Janitors

No when are you going ?

Germaine

Alfred

By the seven o'clock train .

morning by nine .

We shall be in Paris tomorrow

Germaine

Is everything packed ?

Alfred

Everything , Mademoiselle . The cart has taken the heavy
tuggage to the station . We have only our bags to pack
.

Germaine

Very well . Show the gentlemen in
Look!

(EXIT ALFRED C. L. GERMAINE turns , sees broken
pane in window C. utters another startled cry .)

What ?

Sonia

Germaine

A pane of glass in the window just above the catch . It
isn't there . It seems to have been cut out .

How extraordinary !

Sonia

Germaine

Didn't you feel a draught ?

Sonia

No. Perhaps there are bits of glass on the floor. I'll ...
(Rises and goes near GERMAINE R. C., looks on
floor .)

(ENTER ALFRED C. L.)

(Turning cordially .)

Germaine

How do you ?...

(Stops in amazement.)

They

(ENTER CHAROLAIS and HIPPOLYTE , his son , the latter

twisting his hat in his hands , and smiling in a silly way. CHAROLAIS enters first , then his son .

come down L., pass in front of table N.

R. CHAROLAIS in front of armchair R.

to extreme

HIPPOLYTE

passes him and gets R. in front of table B. There is a moment's awkward silence .)

Er...May I ask ?...

10

11

(Bobbing .)

My name is Charolais.

Charolais

M. Charolais, formerly a brewer , now

Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, landed Proprietor at
Rennes .

Hippolyte, my son , id's an engineer.

(HIPPOLYTE bows.)

We have just been lunching near here at the Kerlor
Farm .

We left Rennes this morning and have called for the
purpose

of.... of...

Sonia

(Low to GERMAINE .)

Shall I der tea ?

offer

Germaine

(Low to SONIA. SONIA passes behind GERMAINE to
L.

to back of tea table L. C.)

No.

(TO CHAROLAIS , curtly.)

I beg your pardon ?

Charolais leaming that

Thank you . We asked to see your father , he was out
and that

you were at home , we couldn't resist the pleasure...
mem...of
popping in.

(They bow and BOTH sit.
them enquiringly.)

GERMAINE and SONIA look at
Hippolyte

Father , what a beautiful house.

Charolais

Yes, dear boy, it's beautiful indeed .

(To GERMAINE and SONIA.)

Ladies , this is a very fine place .

Germaine

Excuse me, sir, may I ask the nature of your business?

Charolais

The point is this . We read in a local paper that M.

Gournay-

Martin wanted to sell an automobile . Hippolyte has a
fran-

tic desire to " scorch " , as he terms it, in a "
roadster".

and germaine

We have a roadster , but it's for sale ; my father's

using

it today .

Charolais

perhaps it's the car we saw near the stables .

Germaine

No , that,s a touring car . It belongs to me. But, if

your

son wishes to " scorch "-----

(CHAROLAIS , Jr. , nods.)

We have a hundred horse power that my father has
decided to

sell . Where's the photograph , Sonia ?

(The GIRLS turns their backs.. SONIA goes between
table N. and chair M. GERMAINE comes to sofa O.

N.

Her back to CHAROLAIS and the TWO WOMEN look
on table

During which HIPPOLYTE takes statuette from table
HIPPOLYTE grabs a statuette .)" B ".

Charolais

(Low)

Drop that , you fool.

Germaine

(Turning comes to centre with photo which she offers to CHAROLAIS .)

Here's the photograph .

(Rising .)

Charolais

(Nippolyte rises + comes toChaplain

Oh , thank you ; yes , yes ! A fine car ! A Hundred Horse

Power! May I ask what is your lowest price ?

Germaine

I don't know at all. Won't you come back later and see my father ?

With pleasure.

Charolais

So very kind of you , really .

(Bowing goes up to door C. with his SON.

GERMAINE

follows them.)

Come , dear boy .

(The TWO CHAROLAIS bow again at the door and KXEUNT

C. to L. GERMAINE Watches them exit and comes

down

R. C. SONIA goes up to the chiffonier (up L. C.)
and arranges her hair before the mirror on
chiffonier .)

What weird people !

Germaine

(Impatiently .)

But , dear , oh dear . Why doesn't the Duke come ?

Sonia

(Comes down takes envelope from table N. and
in front of table)

And the Durands , too ?

(Begins to write again seated in chate G.)

Perhaps the Duke called on his cousin M. de
Relzieres.

12

13

(at & ,c) Germaine

why should he ? They hate each other. I heard they
quarrelled

no later than yesterday.

Sonia

(Throwing down pony)

(moving from L , to b.c)

Quarrelled ! Then perhaps perhaps

Germaine

Perhaps what ? What , the matter ?

and

Sonia

The duel - M. de Relzieres's duellt Backing

awaytoproutof tothe

You don't suppose ?....

Germaine

Sonia

It's horrible. Think. If the Duke ... if your fiance ...

L

(Quite calm)

Germaine

How interesting if the Duke has been fighting for
me ?

)

(Goes up to terrace C.) DroundL.

oftableWhat'stobedone?Whatcanwedo?(Excited)

With the best swordsman in Paris

(Looking out C. to R.)

Sonia

Listen .

Who is it?

Germain

Sonia

Some one on horseback.

Germain

(Running up C. and looking off R.)

Yes galloping .

Sonia

(Clapping hands)

It's he ! It's he !

H

Germaine

Do you think so?

Sonia

I'm sure. It is.

Germaine

Then he's just in time for tea . He knows I hate waiting .

Sonia

He's riding in straight from the fields .

Germaine

He can't do it. There's the fence ; an enormous fence ;

and a
mill stream .

Sonia

He's going to jump the river

Ah!

(Hides face- turns away, hiding her eyes)

(She(Themover downGermaine

He jumped . He's clear Bravo, Jacques , bravo. That
horse

cost 7,000 francs . Quick .

(Germaine comes down stage R., takes pendant from
table B.

gonia goes to back of tea table P.)

A cup of tea. He deserves it.

show you his latest present ?

He really is a Duke . Did I

A pendant of pearls .

Can Tought

(Distracted)

They're magnificent .

(Enter the DUKE C. from R. in high spirits .

Duke

If that's for me , very little milk , please , and three

small lumps

of sugar.

(He kisses Germaine's hand bows to Sonia and puts his

gloves and hat on table B.)

(Germaine stops suddenly as she is about to put the pendant

in the drawer)

Five o'clock . I'm in good time .

-

the

(Germaine gives the pendant to Sonia who puts it on .

table N. as near possible to the edge then goes up to the tea table and pours out a cup for the Duke)

You've been fighting a duel ? (The moves to sofa

Germaine

Duke

How do you know that ?

Germaine

(Sits on sofa 0. The Duke sits chair Q. and during these lines is using drinking tea)

RC .)

Sonia

14

15

Why did you fight ?

(Bekuid table P.)

You're not wounded ?

(Coming of Duke)

Sonia

720 Germaine

(Waving her aside)

Sonia, you have the addresses to write .

(Sonia up to piano)

(To the Duke)

Was it for me?

Duke

Would you like me to fight for you ?

(He laughs.)

Germaine

Yes , but it's obvious you didn't . You fought about
some other
girl .

Duke

If I fought about a girl , it must have been for you .

Well , it certainly wasn't for Sonia or a housemaid.

(Vexed)

Germiane

Was Relzières hurt ?

Duke

He'll be only six months in bed .

Sonia

(Near piano looking at picture R. C.)

Poor fellow .

Duke

Do him good , lying down is the best thing in the
world for a

man with a liver . But, good heaven , are all those
things

invitations ?

Yes. And we've got no further than V.

Germaine

only reached the lettin

Duke

You're inviting the whole population . We shall have to
en-

large the Cathedral ?

Germaine

One expects a crush at a wedding like this . There'll
be only
a few accidents, I dare say .

16

(With laugh)

Duke

One or two, perhaps. (puts down unlighted cigarette
on teacup) . (To Sonia)

Will you be an angel ?

(Wondering)

Will I?

Sonia

any of them

Duke

Yes. Play me some Grieg . I heard you yesterday . No
one plays

Grieg like you ?

to

Germaine

It would be very nice . But mademoiselle Kritchnoff
has her work

to do .

Duke .

A little change will do her good and me too.

Germaine

Oh , Jacques , you're most annoying .

Duke .

And you are very sweet .

Germaine

I shall finish by disliking you .

Duke .

(Laughing)

Plenty of time for that when we're married .

16 a

(Rice- move &R. e.)

(TO SONIA.)

Excellent bit of work that , isn't it? It's a Clouet . Lots of character in the face .

Sonia

Is he one of your ancestors?

(Rises .)

Germaine

Of course . Those are all family portraits. There are only Charmeraces here , and father wouldn't have any of them moved.

(Goes around table N. up L / towards chifffonier .)

Duke

(Down stage,mean sofa 0. , his back to audience .)

Except mine .

(SONIA and GERMAINE look surprised.)

Where that tapestry hangs there was formerly a
portrait of

What has become of it?me.

Movesto in frontof a 0)

(To C. up)

Are you joking again ?

Germaine

Sonia

(Coming down R.)

Doesn't Your Grace know ?

Germaine

We wrote you all the details , and sent you the
newspapers ,

three years ago . Didn't you get them ?

Duke

Three years ago I was lost in the P olar regions .

Germaine

All Paris talked of it. Your picture was stolen .

Stolen ? By whom?

Duke

Look!

Germaine

(She pushes back the tapestry, and shows in red
crayon ,,

the name of Arsene Lupin .)

Don't you know the name ?

Arsene Lupin!

Duke

He left his signature.

Spnia

He always does/

Who?

Duke

Germaine

(Coming down to Duke)

Arsene Lupin. You must know who Arsene Lupin is.

Duke

(Sits on sofa 0.)

I never heard of him .

(Down to chair Q.)

Germaine

You never heard of Lupin . Why he's the most whimsical,
daring , and original man alive and a burglar .

Sonia

(R.H. in front of writing table B.)

For ten years he has defied the police . He is the only thief

who has been able to get the better of the great detective ,

Guerchard.

Germaine

You really don't know our most fashionable thier?

Duke

Not even well enough to ask him to dinner . What sort of a

person is he ?

(Sitting chair 2)

Germaine

Why , nobody knows He has a thousand disguises of the most

elaborate description . He dined twice running at the American

Embassy .

Duke

If nobody knows him , how do you know that ?

Germaine

Because the second time about ten o'clock , one of the guests

disappeared , and with him all the embassy plate .

Duke

Phew !

Germaine

Lupin left his card , with these words: "this is not a theft.

It's a restitution . I have taken the exact value of Mr. Morgan's French collection ."

Duke

But the theft in this house was not worthy of your hero. My

portrait was of no value .

Germaine

Don't think he was satisfied with that. Father's collections

were also pillaged.

nuke

I thought your father guarded them as if they were

the treasures
of the Louvre .

Germaine

He takes too much care of them . That's how Lupin
got them.

Duke

I see. He had accomplices in the house .

Only one .

Germaine

Who was it?

Duke

Father .

Germaine

Duke

What ? Your father ?

Germaine

One morning Father had a letter --- wait

(To Sonia)

Look in the desk and bring me the papers marked

Lupin .

Duke

You have a Lupin portfolio ?

Germaine

of course . It was such an extraordinary matter we
kept every-
thing .

Sonia

(Goes to desk , takes papers from it, then returns to
C.

Germaine rises and and takes the letters from her)
Here they are. Mr. Gournay - Martin , collector , at his
Chateau
of Charmerace .

(Gives it to Germaine who sits on sofa right of Duke)

What peculiar writing .

Duke

Read the letter aloud .

Germaine

Duke

(Reading)

"Sir , pardon me for writing without an introduction .

I think

you will know my name . In your picture gallery
there's an
excellent Murillo , which I like very much. Your
Rubens '

also pleases me, as well as your Vandyke . In your drawing-room I like a Louis XIII altar table, the Beauvais tapestries are Beauvais , the Empire card - tables , the Boule clock and other charming things of less importance . I admire very much a tiara which you bought at the sale of the Marquis de la Ferronomaye , and which was once worn by the unfortunate Princess of Lamballe. This tiara has a double interest for me; first , for its tragic memories and also , though it's hardly worth speaking of , for its intrinsic value . I should say , that the stones in this tiara are worth at least 150,000 francs

Germaine

What do you think of that ?

Duke

(Continues .)

"I beg, sir , that you will be good enough to pack these beautiful things with care , and send them to me , prepaid , to the

Station at Batignolles , before a week passes . Unless you

do this , I shall take steps for their removal the night of

Wednesday the 27th or Thursday the 28th of September. Ex-

cuse any trouble I may be giving you , and allow me to sign

myself , with great devotion , Arsene Lupin ". Funny: funny ! How your father must have laughed .

(DUKE returns letters to GERMAINE who rises and gives them to SONIA .)

Very

Germaine

Laughed I wish you could have seen his face . He took It all very seriously.

(SONIA puts papers back in writing -desk R.)

Duke

But surely he didn't send the things to the Bategnolles
?

Germaine

No. But he took the first train to Paris and placed the
tiara in the vaults of the Credit Lyonnaiss Then he
went

to the Public Prosecutor .

Duke

Who laughed at him and reassured him.

Germaine

Of course , but before , morning this was what he
got .

(To SONIA who is at the desk R. H.)

Give me the despatch!

19

Sonia

(Taking telegram from box, reads it.)

" The things are not at the Batignolles . Get
everything ready

by tomorrow evening ."

No.

Duke

Sonia

(Advancing and handing telegram to DUKE .)

Look!

Duke

Way , it's really true. (planstologin& dona qualete
forwho e

Germaine

(Sitting on chair R. of table C.)

the

Thereupon father conceived an idea . Two days before
, we

had seen in the paper , that Guerchard the celebrated
detective,

the only real opponent of Arsene Lupin that

Guerchard was

at Rennes on his vacation? We rushed to him, found
him rus-

ticating under a big straw hat , and in a little Curate's
gar-

den , watering tulips .

Querohard

Λ

Sonia

has a passion for flowers .

Germaine

He began by sending us to the devil , but as soon as
father

spoke of Lupin, he was a different person . He
immediately

placed himself at our disposal , and wired to Paris for
two

men in whom he placed absolute confidence .

Well ? Go on!

Duke

he had been in the have chat Everchard

the celeached detective was a vacation We lover hun
to

the pushed to him. We knethe clever Lupin .

wetold him about Lufin , assure

be a match for the cleve When

flourd hummselhof anflacedThe my in drauf

disposal , and wired for two men

whan he place absolute cadenceWell

20

Germaine

(Rising and kneeling (one knee) on chair)

The night of the 27th came . Guerchard shut all the

servants

in their room in the Cateau, and remained with his
men in

the hall where the collections were . Will you ever
forget

that night , Sonia?

Sonia

Never ! Those three men with revolvers and guns ,
and dark

lanterns Ugh !

Germaine

It was awful . Father , Sonia and I retired to the left
wing

and locked ourselves in. The night passed quickly , not
a

sound . In the morning we rushed out.

Well ?

The deed was done .

What ?

It was done.

Duke

Germaine

Duke

Sonia

Duke

Whatas Tha pictures!

Germaine

They were gone .

Duke

The altar table?

Sonia

Gone .

And the tiara?

Duke

Germaine

On, the tiara was in the vaults of the Credit Lyonnais.

I

really don't know why he took your pretrait. He did not

speak of that theft in his letter .

Duke

It's incredible . He must have hypnotized Gue rchard , or given

him chàoroform.

1

21

Germaine

Guerchard! The man wasn't Guerchard.

Duken

22

What ?

Sonia

The gardener was a false Gueronard. He was Lupin.

1 Duke

Ha! Ha ! Not bad ! When the real Guerbarad found this out ,

what did he do ?

Sonia

(Puts telegram back on desk with other pape s)

Buthe . It almost killed frenchard

Germaine

And will devote the rest of his life to running Lupin down .

Duke

And has no one been able to put the ir hands on this temporary

Guerichard ?

Germaine

No , there wasn't the shadow of a trace of him, except

the letter

and telegram and that signature.

(She points to signature of Lupin behind the tapestry.

GRR-

MAINE goes up stage R C. The Duke rises and moves to C)

(Rises moves toC) Duke

What a clever devil !

(Laughing)

Germaine

Too clever ! I shouldn't be a bit surprised if he were here now .

Duke

Here now?

Germaine

Several things in this room have been moved . For instance that's

been moved. And look at the window , & pane has been broken just

above the catch.

Cat R.C.tehuid cho R) Duke

Hreat Scott !

(Enter FIRMIN C from L)

Are you at home , Mamzelle?

Firmin tome

C

2

Germaine

Yes , but why are you answering the door ?

I have to,

Firmin

Mademoiselle . All the other servants have gone to Paris . Shall I "usher in" the visitors ?

(Laughs)

Duke

Usher them in? A droll card this .

Who is it?

Germaine

Firmin

Two gentlemen. They said they were here before.

Who are they ?

I never remember names .

A useful person .

Ger.

Firm

Duke

Ger .

They are no the little man about the motor car and his son,

I do hope

Firmin

weally can't say.

Yes.

We show them in!

(EXIT Firmin L C)

Ger .

(Germaine comes down to Duke R C. Charloais enters C L

with his two sons . They move down L between table and

boxing . Charabais goes around in front of table to in front of chair . The 1st son in front of chair M.

The second , extreme L)

Ger . two gentlemen were

Andre Durand , when in came--

(She sees Charabais and Anastage)

here

Weehey called Just now I thought they were George and

(Coming down)

Popped in again , you see .

Char .

23

23

(He bows ; Anastage bows also and stepping aside ,
discloses

Bernard

(To Ger)

Sonia

Look . There's another one .

(Introducing)

Char .

Anastace, my second son- a medical student .

(Anastage bows)

Ger .

Sir , I am sorry ; my father has not come back yet .

It really doesn't matter .

Char .

Unorton on safe.

(He sits and the two sons sit also) (Bernard chan
kostebGer .

(Surprised for an instant . Repeating more loudly)

I'm sorry , sir ; my father hasn't yet come home . He
may not
be back for an hour . It would be a pity to waste your
time .

Char .

Don't worry about it. This place is so delightful .

(Points to Duke)

If this gentleman belongs to the family , perhaps he
and I can
fix a price for the motor .

Duke

I'm sorry I can't I know nothing ab aut it.

(Rises)

Benard

If you'll come with us to the stables--

Char .

(Sharply)

I told you to wait at the Park Gate ?

(L of table I , C)

I wanted to see the motor .

Bernard

Char .

Bernard , my third son . He is to go to the bar .

(Bernard bows and sits)

Ger .

How many sons has he ?

(Enter Irma L 2 E)

24

24

Irma

Your father has just come in, Mademoiselle .

Ger .

(Relieved)

At last !

(To Char

If you will come with me.

(Xesin front of others to DL 2 E)

You can go into the matter with my father at once .

(During this CHARACAIIS and his sons rise ,

BERNARD stands

up near at ble P. GER . is followed by Char . and his

two sons . Bernard appearing to admire the parlor ,

goes

out more slowly . BERNARD comes between table P.

and seat

and passing takes the cigarette case which the DUKE

left there , and puts it in his hat , then passing - in - front-

of tables takes the pendant and puts it in his hat , then passing in front of table N takes the pendant and puts it on

in the inside pocket of his vest , after knocking envelopes

and view off table , he then starts to go out L 2 B)

Duke

(Quickly to Bernard)

Hello ! Hello!

Bernard

Are you speaking to me , monsieur ?

No, (Duke goes to him- Ber. approaches) Below
sohn)

(mover &c) Duke

That's a very useful cigarette case , but it happens to be mine .

I took no cigarette case.

Bernard

Lurus Then(The Duke takes his R arm and leads him forward .

pulls the case out of his hat . Shows it to Sonia and

places it on table)

Duke

A little accident I suppose .

Bernard

It it must have been . Sala

(MERNARD starts to go out , the Duke catches him by the

back of his vest and forces him to come back - thou
Laal around in his ins Fde pocket and pulls the
pendant

out. Bernard frees himself and moves to door L 2 B.
talking all the while. The Duke Follows him)

Duke

(Taking from his inside pocket a small jewel-box)

25

25

Did you take this by accident, too?

(R. H.)

The pendant .

Sonia

Bernard

fered

Let me off this time . I'll never do it again.

Duke

You're a person of low habits .

(with a quick glance L.) Bernard

Don't tell my father . Please don't tell my father .

Duke

26

Get out.

(Push him toward door L. 2. B.)

Go to the devil .

(Exit Bernard running . Duke looks at the case and puts

it on Chiffonier up L. H.)

That's where he will go. I should have shown him up .

(Duke comes down in front of chair M.)

(ate.) Sonia

No , no , it was good of you to forgive him.

(Sonia approaches and puts one knee on sofa O. keeping

her eye on the door by which Bernard went out)

Duke

What's the matter ? You are white as a sheet .

Je Sonia

This has upset me. Poor weleh wah fellow.

Duke

Are you sorry for him ?

Sonia

-

Yes . He looked so frightened , and he's so young, and
to

be caught in the act .

You're kind - hearted .

It was dreadful . Sonia (Sits on sofa)

Duke

How

Did Dunsee his Sonia like trapped beaut

He looked like a rabbit caught in a trap . You are kind
after

all.

(Smiling)

Duke

26

"After all "?

Sonia you seem to me . are

You seem sarcastic and bitter , like a man who has
suffered

and tries to hide it.

Duke

Perhaps so. I do.

and Sonia more considerate & others .(Rise) and
move to R. G.)

Suffering makes one sympathize , doesn't it?

(Take letters and envelopes from table N) over back of
defe .

Duke

doesn't it?

(Approaching her standing before the table N)

You're treated pretty badly here .

What makes you think ?...

Sonia

Duke

You've a sad smile; your eyes are restless, scared ;
you're

like a child who wants someone to protect her . Are
you alone

in the world?

Sonia

Yes.

Duke

Haven't you a family friends?

Sonia

Don't

Duke

You've nobody in Paris ; but , surely in Russia ?

Not a soul .

Sonia

no one .

That's hard .

Duke

Sonia

But it makes no difference; I've been used to it from
child-

hood . It's hard , as you say ; but you won't laugh at
me ?

Duke

(Sit on sofa 0.)

I?

17

for myself Cares

Sonia

The hardest of all is that I never get a letter ; never
an

envelope to open from anyone who thinks of me: not

a memory

of other days; nothing . So I try to practice philosophy
. Yes.

ba (Trying to smile)

Oh I'm a good deal of a philosopher .

How oddly you say it --

Pay (Repeating it)

Duke

"A good deal of a philosopher! "

(Looks at her closely , then repeats)

Philosophy !

(She turns her eyes to his . A long pause . They look
at

each other. Enter GERMAINE, L. 2 E. and goes to
table

N. Sonia moves to R.)

Sonia

Germaine

Sonia! It's too bad of you . Didn't I tell you to
pack my morocco -writing case ? I open a drawer at
hazard. What

do I find ? My morocco writing case ,

Sonia

(Moving to door)

I'm sorry . I'll pack it now.

Germaine

Pray don't take the trouble .

(Xes above table N towards door R. 3 E.)

I'll pack it myself . You act as if you were one of our guests

Dyke

Come , Germaine. For a trifling oversight -

Germaine

(To the Duke)

I wish you wouldn't meddle . Mayn't I find fault with a servant ?

(Sternly)

Duke

Germaine !

(To Sonia)

Germaine

Take those cards to my room . Well ? Why don't you obey ?

I will , Mademoiselle .

Sonia

1.8

Duke

Allow me, please . Do , allow me.

(Gathers upper Germaine shrugs shoulders and goes out , Exit Germaine R. 3 E. Sonia goes towards table N

The Duke rises at same time - he goes to help her collect

the envelopes Sonia R., Duke R. C. They both bend before the table . He continues)

You know ; she ' s rather a good sort . Don't be vexed if occas-

ionally she's just a pretty doll ; petted and spoiled .

Nothing would so worry me as to think --

(Sonia rises,) laden with pepend

Are you sure they're not too heavy ?

(They both rise . The Duke holding the envelopes)

He Waves

Not at all . Really .

th) Sonia

Duke

Don't you want me to help you ?

Sonia (He Kim'sherhand)

No.

(Goes to writing table B. Takes a book from it and ,
exits .

R. 3 E. after saying : on the threshold

Thank you , (Duke moves to RC .)

.

They stop at the door of the drawing room . Gournay
goes

as far as window up C. rings bell as he passes at back)

(At entrance of Gournay , the Duke goes to R. before
chair C.)

Gournay

Inules atDuke

I won't accept a sou less . You can take it or leave it.

Char .

It's very dear .

Gournay

Dear ? A superb machine for which I paid 33

thousand francs , and

I let it go for nineteen. You are getting a tremendous
bargain ,

and when you try her speed --

19 thousand francs is a lot of money.

Char .

(FIRMIN passes at back , coming from R.)

29

Gournay

Come , come you're a Shylock .

(To Firmin)

Firmin , go with these gentlemen to the Garage , and
tell Jean

to do whatever they want . I'll join you soon . You're
too

cunning . That's your trouble.

(Char . and sons bow themselves out C to R. Gournay
comes down to the Duke , rubbing his hands)

I can twist that idiot around my finger .

Duke

So I see .

(Sits chair C. and amuses himself by drawing on table
B.)

Gournay

(Sits in armchair R.)

The motor is four years old ; he pays me 19 thousand
francs ,

and it is not worth a pinch of tobacco . 19,000 francs
is the

price of the little WATTEAU that I've been looking at
for

some time. Everything comes to him who waits .

(Seating himself)

(It grows dark outside gradually) (at doorway R)

(Alfred enters L.2.B. turns electric switch and lights
chandelier closes door C and exits 1.2.B.)

Acknowledge it . I understand business and as for
Art ,

I love it; pictures , bric -a -brac, tapestries, everything
that

is beautiful. Without boasting I know what such
things are

worth . I have taste.

(Rises and moves in front of chair 2.)

Duke

Your collectinns prove it .

(Rises and remains with back to writing table R.)

Gournay

You haven't seen my most valued possession , the
tiara of the

Princess of Lamballe.

Duke

The tiara that Lupin envied you .

Gournay

Don't speak of the villain .

Duke

Germaine showed me his letter .

Gournay

I nearly had apoplexy . I was in this very room ,
quietly

talking , when all at once Firmin came in and brought
me a

letter .

(Enter FIRMIN C. from L. comes down L. delivers
letter

and exits L.2.R.)

30

Firmin

There's a letter for you , sir.

(Junnen evitiL.) Gournay

Thanks . He brought me a letter , the writing of which

--

(Looks at envelope)

Good gracious!

(Falls into chair Q. DUKE comes to him behind the

chair.)

Duke

What's the matter ?

Gournay

The writing --- it's the same .

alling its-

Nonsense!

Duke

and gives it to Gommino

Gournay

(Opens the letter and reads)

" Sir, my collection of paintings , of which I laid the foundation

with yours three years ago, does not contain any old masters ,

except a Velasquez , a Rembrandt, and three small Rubens .

You have many more . As it is a pity that so many master-

pieces should be in your hands

(He wipes his brow)

In your hands , I intend to appropriate them and I shall

respectfully permit myself tomorrow to make 'a
thorough

search of your house in Paris ." No!

Duke

This must be a practical joke .

(Continues reading)

Gournay

And by the way , for the last three years , you have
detained

against my wishes the tiara of the Princess of
Lamballe. I

shall possess myself of that gem at the same time."

The

dog ! The dog ! I'm choking . Oh!

(Tears open his collar)

Duke

(Goes up to window C. to call)

Firmin ! Firmin !

(To Sonia who enters R.2.E. and Firmin from C.L.)

Quick , water , salts. M. Gournay - Martin is fainting.

(Sonia rushes out passing behind Gournay and exits
L.2.

followed by Firmin.)

Lupin ! Telephone for the police . Quick!

Gournay

31

(Enter GERMAINE R. 2. F. goes directly to Gournay ;
Duke passes behind to L.C.)

Germaine

Father , if you want to dress for dinner
(looks at her father)

Why , that's the matter?

Duke

He's had another letter from Lupin .

(Enter SONIA L.2. with bottle of smelling salts - xes
in front of table N. Firmin enters at same time with a
glass of water -xes above table and gives it to

Germaine

who hands it to her father)

Sonia

Here's some water .

Gournay

Firmin first , where is Firmin ?

(Germaine takes glass from Gournay , puts it on table
N

passing behind the extreme L.)

(on R.of Gournay). Firmin

Do you want another glass of water?

Gournay

(Rises Pouncing on him)

That letter , where did it come from ? Who brought it?

Firmin

It was in the box at the gate . My wife found it.

(Up stage R.C. and exits C. to L.)

(Foesdown & glaring at letter) Gournay

The same thing happened three years ago . It's a fatal
coincidenc

(moving toC fromLeSteady . If this letter Duke
isn't a practical joke ---

Gournay

A joke ! Was it a joke three years ago ?

Duke

If this attempt is meant seriously, it's so childish that
we

can prevent it.

Gournay

How ?

Duk

31

Duke

Let's see the letter . Date "Sunday, the 3rd of September ".

33

The letter was written today.

Yes . Well ?

Gournay

Read this: "I

Paris "---

Duke Make a thoroughsearch of
omonno

(Repente)

To-morrow morning) Jorrow more
your house in

Yes , tomorrow morning .

Gournay

Duke

Either it is a joke , and we needn't worry, or it is a
threat ,

and we still have time .

Gournay

What's the good of time ?Time?

For once Duke

This time , M. Lupin's bluff , and his mania for
warning

people , may play the deuce with him .

Gournay

(Goes to writing table R.)

Let's telephone . (Permanie t'o & C. Duke moves Pa
stop)

All

Good !

Germaine I'm off

(c . The Duke next to Gournay) accident

Impossible !

All

Why ?

(Moving towards Decke R.), Germaine

The telephone to Paris stops at six on Sundays .

Gournay

Good heavens !

Germaine

But we can telegraph .

Gournay

(Xing to C.)

Ah !

Sonia

Sonia

34

No, we can't .

All

Why not ?

Sonia

You can't telegraph on Sunday . After twelve o'clock
noon

the office is closed .

Gournay

(Falls into chair 2)

What a government ?

Jermaine

You cal (R. of Bonda

Duke

Come . Be plucky . There must be some way out of
this.

Gournay

Pind it.

What's the time ?

Duke

Seven o'clock .

Germaine

minutes to seven .

Sonia

20

Gournay

Twelve minutes past seven .

Duke

Let's make it somewhere about seven . All right. I'm
off

to Paris . I 11 take one of the motors and barring
accidents,

I can be by two or three o'clock tomorrow morning .
(Rises)

there)

Gournay

We'll go too. Why wait till tomorrow? Our luggage has
gone , let's go tonight . I've sold the Hundred Horse
Power ;

but we've still the touring car and the roadster

(The Duke is about to leave the room R.2. E.)

Where's Firmin ?

(Calling)

Firmin !

(Enter Firmin C.L.)

Monsieur .

Firmin

Gournaye

Tell Jean , the chauffeur, to come here at once .

(Exit FIRMIN C. to R.)

Germaine

We shall get there before the servants. Only think of sleeping in a house with everything upside down .

(Enter Jean ,chauffeur, C.R.)

Gournay

Better than sleeping in a house with everything stolen .

Where are the keys of my Paris house ?

(Back ofthan 2)

(Enton TBAN chauffous R.)

Jean

You called me, Monsieur?

The drawer of Germaine

The keys are in your desk , father .

(Pointing to desk)

(xlable B) (Jurus facingfront)Gournay

So they are. Go and get ready .

(Exit Sonia and Germaine
Jean and Gournay remain)

At once . Do you hear ?

Duke follows them .R.2.E.

Jean , we are starting for Paris at once .

Moves up towards Jean

In the touring car or the roadster ?

Jean

The roadster. Hurry. Oh ! My valise travelling bag .

Gournay

(Exits L.2.B.)

(Jean is left alone .

HAROLAIS appears C. R.)

He whistles off C.R.

Jean moves to R.2. door)

Well . What's doing ?

Char .

35

(Comes down to table N. and looks about everywhere
)

Jean

They're off to Paris . No wonder . Whenever a job's on
foot ,

someone gets a warning . It's easy enough to crack a house

in Paris without writing letters to drive people out of their

wits .

Charolais

Pah ! Driving 'em out of their wits is part of the game . It

will help us tomorrow ; help us to get the tiara.

like Jean

tiara's in Paris , or in

char .

I'm beginning to think you're right. We've hunted this place from cellar to attic and there's not a sign of it , here,

Where are the keys of the Paris house ?

Jean

In the writing desk .

(Char . xes to writing desk C., R.H.)

(Enter HIPPOLYTE C.R.)

(Jean goes up to C.

R.2.E.)

Hippolyte takes his place by door

unds it locked)

(Poos& Table B.Tuis C drawn charolais

Where are your brothers ?

Gourg

Hippoltye

In the stables . They want Jean .

T1 (To Jean)

Charolais

Indow)

Cut along. How's the road to Paris?

12 pocket .

Jean

Good . But look out for side slips in weather like this .

(Exits C. R.)

(Hippolyte takes case from chiffonier L.)

Charolais

(To Hippolyte, who is pilfering)

Don't do that . It's against orders .

(Puts it back in place)

What's the Governor doing ?

(Looking over curtains of glass door L.2 . B.)

Packing his things .

Hippolyte

Charolais

We've a few minutes .

(Trying to force desk R.)

I must have those keys .

Hippolyte

Hard job ?

Charolais

(Does so taking out keys)

No. She's open . The substitutes . -

(Takes bunch of keys from his son who throws them to him)

36

The

They look pretty like ' em.

Scatter .

closes drawers oglances L.)

(Throws them into writing desk) who he looks)

Hippolyte

(Stands close against wall , near door L. which opens on

Charolais stands close against the wall near the bay window, behind the piano. Gournay- Martin enters with his valise, from L.2. E. When C.

Hippolyte slips out , closing door L.2.E.

Gournay turns frightened. Then Charalois slips out stage .

C. R. Pause Alarm of Gournay -Martin

valise . DUKE enters from R.2.3. dressed as chauffeur.

drops his

Hippolyte closes door . Charolais slams the window shutter . Gournay thoroughly scared)

Duke slams door as he enters)

Is everyone ready?

Duke

Gournay

More or less . It's queer I thought I heard -

(Opens door L.2 .

There no one.

Duke up to window)

(Jermaine enters R.1.)

My keys !

xes to chiffonier L.H.

Gournay goes to desk B. puts keys in pocket . Enter FIRMIN C.R.)

Jean , the chauffeur . He's been gagged - bound .

No.

(Closes door E.2 . E.)

I live in a nightmare.

(Germaine enters y

Ah!

Firmin

Oh , Monsieur, Monsieur!

All

What's the matter now?

Firmin

(Fermin exit. C.R.)

-

37

Omnes

Gagged and

(Jean enters C. R. his clothes torn . Gournay R.? Duke

R. C. JEAN C. GERMAINE L. C., SONIA enters and

remains

near door R. 2. R.

Jean

(Coming down)

They have stolen everything the motors everything.

What.

(Xes to him c

All

Gournay

Speak, speak , who stole them ?

Those four gentlemen .

Jean

The Charolais?

All

Jean

The Hundred Horse Power is the only thing they
didn't take.

(Sits on sofa 0.)

That's the last straw .

Gournay

Germaine

(Approaching Jean from L.)

Why didn't you call for help ?

Jean

Did I have time, Mamzelle. And haven't all the
servants

gone?

Gournay

It's appalling.

Duke

(Comes down R.C. To Gournay)

Come ! Come !. This is no time to give way . They've
left the

big car . That will do for me.

(Jean gets up C.)

We will all go.

Germaine

189

38

Gournay

(Rises and goes up C.)

In that thing! You're mad!

Germaine

(L. H.)

I'm not going to stay here , and be murdered . If

Jacques

goes there will be no men here but you and Firmin ,
and in

case of danger ,

(Comes above table N.)

You won't be here at all.

man

(Down stage C.)

Gournay

You are right . We'll risk the big car .

(Sonia is near armchair R. Duke goes to seat M. L.
of table , sits and looks around on table N.)

Gournay in front of sofa 0.)

Sonia

But there's a train there must be a train.

Gournay

Of course . But , we're twelve hours from Paris . When
could we get there !

Germaine

The important thing is to get away from here .

Duke

Where is the Railroad Guide? Here it is! paris !

(Kneels on sofa 0)

Well, is there a train?

Gournay

Duke

Wait!

(To Gournay)

What time is it now ?

Germaine

Ten minutes past seven.

10 Sonia

Twenty minutes to seven .

20 minutes past

Seven alebook .

Gournay

Duke

Yes - about seven - well, we have time , there is a train
at half past eight.

39

39

lesing in Germaine

With a dining car?

Gournay

Ost dreaped

40

40

Yes , there's a dining car ?

Duke

Sleeping car and dining car, and you can get there at
five

in the morning.com

Germaine

In a nice state. Gournay

(Rises & moves up c) Gournay

.

(To Jean)

Can you get the large car ready at once ?

()

Jean

The tires of the hind wheels need fixing .
about half an hour .

The Gournay

We can't get to the station in time .

Jean

I can get the station cart ready , m'sieur .

Oh !

They've left us that .

Yes .

All

Jean

All

That will take

KOC

Gournay

I agree with my daughter . We should not stay here .

(To Jean)

Are you strong enough to harness the horses ?

Indeed I am

(Gournay returns to in front of saja 0)Jean

Besides , I think Firmin's nephew is here .

He can drive you to the station .

(Ringing)

Germaine

Very well, get everything ready.

(Exit JEAN e. R. Germaine turns to Irma , who enters R.)

(Irma starts)

Irma , we are leaving in a few minutes . Get dressed .

I will

strap my bag myself .

Let me help you .

Sonia

No. Get your own things ready .

Germaine ng in the cart

(They exeunt R. 2. E.)

Gournay

(R.)

Yes , this is the best way out of it -- but oh , good

lord ...

()

Duke

What is it now?

Gournay

The Chateau . Who will take care of the chateau ' We
must barr-

icade it . Close the shutters . I have every confidence
in

Firmin , but how do I know when I am gone that he
won't get

fuddled in the nearest ale house .

Duke

Don't worry , I'll stay .

Gournay

You! You cantt I need you in Paris .

Duke

Well I'll follow you on the big car .

Gournay

But the tires ! On the devil take it.

Don't worry about me .

the tires.

Duke

While you go to the station I'll see to

(Enter FIRMIN xing at back , from L. remains C)

Gournay

Firmin , we're leaving , you must take care of the
chateau .

Very good , m'sieur .

Firmin

41

Gournay

Be ready for anything , Firmin , no matter what .

Don't forget

that you have been a gamekeeper.

Firmin

And I won't forget I was in the Franco - Prussian War.

But

where are you and the young ladies going in the cart?

Gournay

To the station of course .

Firmin

To the station ?

(Exits C.R.)

Gournay

Heavens ! It's half past seven , we've barely half an

hour .

(To Germaine , who comes in with valise in hand R. 2.
B.)

Well , are you ready ? Where is Sonia ?

She goes directly to table N.)

(The Duke goes to her R and helps close valise. Irma
follows him to her L.)

Germaine

She is coming . Jacques , I can't strap this thing
down .

Duke

Of course not . What have you got in it?

Germaine

Everything I don't want .

(To Irma)

Take it like that and put it in the wagon .

What a fuss !

Irma

(Short strom)

(Takes the valise and exits C.L.)

Firmin

The wagon is ready , sir.

(Exit Pirmin C.R.) (Enter Sonia R. 2.

chiffonier to arrange hat in mirror)

(Enter FIRMIN C.R.)

Let me fix my veil

and goes to

Sonia

Here I am ,A

(Goes to chiffonier L up. Sonia takes pendant and leaves

case during the following)

42

42

Firmin

But m'sieur there's no one to drive you , my nhé zone
Gournay

43

What ?

(Moves to Tournay RC)

Father , you can drive.

Germaine Jewel

Firmin

And there are no lamps . shoo

Germaine

Well , we'll hope there is a train . (Fermin exits C.R.)

(Moves&Duke , the thisbands)tea Gournay

Goodbye Jacques , we will expect you at daylight,
send for

Guerc hard the detective, at once . I pin my faith to
you .

(Comes & Duts a giving) Germaineher hands .

Goodbye , Jacques . Don't forget to bring my three hat
boxes in
the motor ?

(Up & moving off L) Gournay

Hat boxes indeed . Come along , do; we'll never catch
the train

Germaine

We have twenty-five minutes . (Savitz)

Gournay

I have to drive .

Germaine

Heavens !

(At the door turns)

My jewel case !

Are you coming ?

Gournay (Outside)

Germaine (Going)

Jacques , do look for it, like a dear . It's somewhere there .

Duke

All right. I'll gee to it.

(He accompanies them C. L. The stage remains empty a

43

moment during the preceding scene, it has become gradually

dark . The duke comes back with an automobile cloak over-his arm)

What beastly weather .

(The wind whistles)

But the stars are out.

in the

Where the deuce is the jewel case-- ByJave ! it's empty .

(He runs to the door) withthem

Germaine ! Germaine ! Oh! It's too late --- the idea .

Empty !

Sonia or the maid must have taken it . I'm getting jumpy . (Movedown RC

(Enter Firmin , C. R. he has a gun over his shoulder ,

a

gamekeeper's belt , a gourd, and a basket of provisions , with

a bottle sticking out. Comes to chair M puts basket on table N.) (He also carries a lighted stable lantern) (Thunder tightning) .

Gun, fodder , Firmin and rum . Now let the villains come .

You're all right , aren't you?

Duke

Firmin

The first person who pokes his nose in here will get a bus as a how -d'ye do.

for

Duke

In the meantime shut the shutters. I will give you a hand .

(Sterne Effects) Firmin

(Goes to the terrace and closes the shutters with the Duke's aid)

master's a

The funny old bird , m'sieur . Why did he go to the station ?

Perhaps to take a train.

Duke

Not for Paris, there isn't any .

Firmin

Buke

Charge of shot

There is one at half past eight .

Firmin

No, m'sieur this is the 3rd of September, and that train doesn't

44

44

45

go after the First .

Duke

45

You are talking bosh . I saw it in the time table

Was that train on it?

Firmin

(Enter Jean C.R.)

Jean

The tires are all right , your Grace ; but you must be careful ;

it's an awful night.

Duke

I've seen worse .

(He puts on his cloak assisted by Jean)

You will stay here, in the left wing of the Chateau .

Jean

Yes m'sieur , the master told me. Is there any danger tonight ?

I don't think so . M. Gournay was a bit upset , but in any

case , you'd better be prepared.

Duke

I have my revolver .

Jean

Duke .

That's right. You can light the lamp , and I'll be ready in

a few moments . (Storm crash)

(Exit Jean C.R.)

Let me see , have I got everything ? Well , Firmin , I shall

leave you --- you are an old soldier and are afraid of nothing .

Firmin

No m'sieur not yet .

(at up c) Duke

Firmin , you are funnier than a comic paper. And speaking about that train- the 8.30 .

Firmin

Well !

Duke

(Laughs)

It was taken off three days ago. Ha ha !

(Exits C. R.) MASON (Thunders,les tuning te)

(JalleyTime table fruceTableN)Pirmin

A(Locks do or C then comes down to chair M. Xes puts time

table on desk R.) Son

There's too much light here . It pours through the shutters--

it might attract a robber (tums Switch atR.Chandelenlight out)

(He lowers the light)

I don't think it's a sensible thing to leave only one man

here . All they would have to do is to gag me as they

gagged

Jean . I call it dangerous . I ought to have got my wife to

keep me company . Well , I have my food , and I am pretty

hungry . (Heavy Thunder storm appiate)

(He puts things out on table, and pours out a glass of wine . Sits chair M.)

Heavens , what a storm . If it's going to thunder like that

how the mischief can I hear the robber if he comea.

(He begins to eat. A noise is heard outside , the shutters

are shaken , he rises)

I hear steps .

(He takes up his gun. Someone knocks on the shutters)

Someone is knocking on the shutters

(Gets down extreme L.)

(Knocks are repeated)

I'm funky . There's cold water up and down my spine .

(Some one tries to open the door)

Who's there?

Voice

(Gournay outside)

Open the door !

Go away or I'll fire.

Firmin

Gournay (Outside)

Pirmin will you open the door ?

Firmin

Hello . They knowny name !

Gournay

I tell you to open the door . We are wet to the skin .

46

Firmin

It's the master's voice. (Chandelier switch)

(He turns up the light and opens the doork

(Enter GOURNAY , GERMAINE , SONIA and IRMA

with an um-

brella)

Gournay

(Goes directly to desk B. Germaine to seat M. Sonia
above table N.)

That time table ! Where is that time table? I shall
com-

plain to the government .

(He sneezes) (Firmin opens the shutters and rear door .

Irma is seen trying to close umbrella which is turned inside out

Germaine

Oh , what a night- no train before midnight . We'll have to

stay here four hours . Fortunately , there's something to

eat.

(She seats herself at table chair .)

Gournay

Half past eight-- half past eight! Here it is. You are all witnesses --it is in the time table .

Germaine

Somebody's been drinking out of this glass .

Firmin

(Coming down R.C.)

That's my night - cap.

Gournay

(Looking at time table at desk B)

God bless my soul .

Ger. & Sonia

(During this Germaine sits at table , and Sonia takes out

of her yal ise a traveling glass and gives it to Germaine)

What's the matter ?

Gournay

What's the date of this time table?

47

47

Firmin

48

(R. C. Proudly)

I can tell you, sir.

(Reseda. H. Furious) Gournay

What ? You know!

Pirmin

Of course sir- it's my time table . I've had it every since

the Paris Exposition .

Gournay

It's eight years old ! No wonder we missed the train .

It

wasn't running .

(He collapses in chair at disktable B.)

CURTAIN:

48

ARSENE LUPIN

ACT II :

ARSENE LUPIN

ACT 2

Drop showing house in Construction

Overtured

Chair Tree top

Mantel Ladder

set piece

fr hair DOORS

WINDOW SILL

DimmLadder

HampWINDOWS

Telophone

A Git-table

TRAP Ladderteplatform behind clock

Interior Lampshade

floor

DOORS

OPEN

O

no Bust

g

Steel Screen MANTEL, with sleek

Book Cushion

ArmCha Pedestal

d.Tapistry Butt

Curtain SAFE

Small

09Chair

Pedestal overturned

Sof

Table

R

Lterior

DOORS

Chair chair

Side chair

ACT II :

PRE -SCENE :

1 Inve them All the

wore a wedding prouent

We'll get them back

(Che io about

Your

The practical clock

is set to 9:30

at rise

A large drawing room in an old town-

house . .R. 1. E. a door from the

outside . Up stage R. large glass he

doors looking into a room dismantled

and wrecked . Up stage , C. facing

audience a large open window with

nooshutters broken . One of them has

been partly pulled off and is hang-

ing down . On the outside of the

I window top of a ladder is seen . A

stool stands close to the window .

The window looks out into the gardens

of the house , and a house in process

of building. At back L. H. a large

fireplace of carved wood, with a

tapestry screen in front of it. L.

two doors , one in second entrance

is not used , and standing in front of it is a safe . The other is practicable , in frist entrance. Between the door L. 2. E. and the mantelpiece is an armchair , with its back to the wall . A piece of drapery is thrown over it, and screen half hides the chair . At back on either side of the window , tapestries have been removed . On the walls R. and L. are pictures, and some empty spaces . In each empty space appears the name of Arsene Lupin written in red chalk .
ENTER THE DUKE and A COMMISSARY of POLICE , L. 1. E. DUKE goes directly to R. H.

Your Grace is right.

did their worst .

Commissary

2

It was in this room that the thieves

Duke

It's not surprising , Mr. Commissary , for here Mr.

Gournay-

t

2

Martin had his most valuable collections . The doors were

formerly hung with Flemish tapestries of the 15th Century .

They were marvels . Such soft tints ; such delicate color-

ing . (up R.C.)

(THE DUKE is moving all through scene .)

(are) Commissary

It is evident that Your Grace has a fondness for such things .

Duke

I love them all the more , because I felt they were mine . They

were a wedding present from my father -in -law.

future

Commissary

We'll get them back sooner or later.

(The DUKE is about to move an overturned piece of furniture.)

But I must ask Your Grace to disturb nothing . The
Examining

Magistrate must look into this himself . Please leave
every-
thing as it is.

Duke

It's the disappearance of Victoire, the caretaker , that
puzzles
me.

It puzzles me , too .

Commissary

Duke

(Taking out his watej.)

Half past nine . I hope the Magistrate will soon be
here .

Commissary

He'll come in a few minutes . I sent him a report and
told

him about the letter of Arsene Lupin , and the
automobiles , and

now he knows as much as we do . I also telephoned to
Police

Headquarters .

Duke

You don't object to my telephoning Guerchard?

The Chief Inspector of the Secret Police ?

Commissary

Duke

The Guerchard; yes ; the brilliant Guerchard.

father -in- law won't be happy without him .

My prospective

(Looking in the telephone-book. Going up to desk

R. C. (G.)

Guerchard! Guerchard !

3

(Speaks before Duke can) get telephone book

His number is 673 45.

Commissary

Thanks .

Duke

(Telephones .)

673 - 45. Busy will you call me up ? Thanks .

(To COMMISSARY .)

You don't think Lupin was the thief ?

(Drily.)

Commissary

Hope not .

three rooms

Duke

Why.

Commissary

Because , if it was Lupin , I fear we shall never catch him .

Duke

(At telephone.)

Still busy ? Will you call them again ?

(TO COMMISSARY .)

What makes you think it isn't he?

(Coming down R. C.)

(L. C.)

Commissary

Lupin covers up his tracks .

Duke

Here the tracks are plain .

But the letter M. Gournay received , and the signatures in red chalk ?

Commissary

That can all be imitated to put us off the scent.

(ENTER POLICE AGENT door L. 1. F. followed by
LOCKSMITH.)

Agent

Mr. Commissary , we've opened every door .

(To LOCKSMITH .)

Commissary

And have you closed them again ?

Locksmith

(Crosses in front of AGENT to the COMMISSARY .)

Here are the keys .

Duke

Had the locks been tampered with ?

Locksmith

ary thinks

I answer for it, they were never touched . Unless
there

were two sets of keys .

Duke

As the only doors forced were those of the drawing -
room and

the dining -room, and the doors of the three rooms in
M. Gour-

nay's special suite ---

Yes.

Locksmith

(To COMMISSARY .)

Duke

You see the thieves knew the place . They entered
that part

of the house where they were sure to find objects of
value .

Commissary

(Dismissing the LOCKSMITH.)

That will do -

you've shown us the broken locks . Now replace
them . (Moves down stage a steps.Two)

(The LOCKSMITH and AGENT orces behind the
COMMISSARY

and DUKE and EXEUNT R. 1. R.)

Duke

of course , I must be able to close these doors .

(DUKE goes up to telephone.)

Excuse me, what did you say was Guerchard's
number ?

Commissary

(Goes to L. H.)

673 - 45 .

Duke

(Going to telephone.)

Thanks ! - 673-451--

Agent

(Returning R. 1. E.)

The Examining Magistrate will be here in a moment .
been looking about in the garden .

He has

(EXITS R. 1.R.)

Duke

(At ' phone.)

Is this Guerchard's ? -- Monsieur Guerchard
himself .Hello!

Monsieur Tournay- Martin's

Good morning . The Duke de Charmers house was....

What! You know it you were just coming here -- yes --

Lupin's name has been mentioned , but the

Commissary thinks

it doubtful -- Thank you .

(Hange up receiver.)

(RE- ENTER AGENT R. 1. E.)

(down L) Commissary

The Magistrate is coming .

Duke

(Coming down to the COMMISSARY who is extreme L.)

Is he a bright person ?

Theoretically , yes.

Commissary

Practically, no.

(AGENT shows in MAGISTRATE and CLERK R. 1. E.)

(CLERK goes up and sits on chair F. The DUKE up stage

JL. a little . The MAGISTRATE crosses in front of him and shakes hands with the COMMISSARY .)

(L. H.

Commissary

Introducing .)

The Duke de Charmerace .

Magistrate

(Turning to DUKE on his R. who comes down and shakes

hands with MAGISTRATE .)

Your Grace ! I am shocked to hear of this outrage .

Oh! A

broken shutter the thief came through that window --
(ALL turn backs and look up stage C.)

(Sarcastically .)

Duke

You don't say so .

Magistrate

He has upset things generally --de you think it was
Arsene

Lupin ? So he is still at his old tricks , what ?

Commissary

Not much of a trick this time . It is ordinary
housebreak-
ing .

(At window C.)

Magistrate

Let's hope so . I think you are right . The traces are
too

plain you have someone watching the garden , have
you not ?

5

Commissary

(L. H.)

I have .

Clearly .

You saw footprints in the garden ?

Magistrate

They lead directly from the house which is in process of construction next door . I suppose vagrants often

spend the night there ?

Quite often .

Commissary

(MAGISTRATE comes down C. COMMISSARY on his L.

DUKE R.)

Magistrate

I will begin here -- that safe does not seem to have been opened .

(L. 2. E.)

Duke

(Commissary Je
table weLC)

Then up

Fortunately not . That is where my father -in-law now keeps

his most valuable possession a tiara .

Magistrate

The famous tiara of the Princess of Lamballe?

Exactly .

(TO COMMISSARY .)

Duke

Magistrate

But, according to your report , the letter signed Lupin said

he would steal this very tiara .

Definitely .

Duke

(L.)

Commissary

rogue

Which goes to show that the thief was not Lupin . The
rouge

always keeps his word .

(C.)

Magistrate

Who had charge of the house ?

Duke

(R.)

The janitor , his wife and a caretaker.

Magistrate

They were surprised while I have spoken to the janitors.

asleep . They were gagged .

(Was moved down & below than 2 Commissary

They insist they saw nothing .

Magistrate

I will see them again. You found them tied in their room ?

Commissary

After the manner of Lupin - yellow gag , blue rope and on

a piece of pasteboard these words , " I steal, therefore I am."

Magistrate

We'll be once more ridiculed by the papers . I'd like to see

the caretaker. Where is she ?

Inoue dot.

Commissary

We don't know where she is.

What ?

Magistrate

hard has done good

We can't find here anywhere.

Commissary

Magistrate

(Quickly .)

Capital . An accomplice , of course .

Were these jewels stolen ?

Magistrate

Duke

Not even touched .

Magistrate

It is certainly strange .

Duke

I don't think so.

Magistrate

A proper search must be made for the caretaker.

Have you

looked everywhere ?

(with& stop froward) Comminary.

Everywhne .

Duke

I don't think so . The family has the greatest faith in

her .

Only yesterday she telephoned about some wedding presents -

jewelry left in her charge .

Magistrate

No sign of blood -torn clothing -- or any equally interesting thing ?

Not a sign .

Commissary

Magistrate

That's a pity! How about her bed ?

Commissary

She slept over the linen room . Her bed was in disorder , but

she took no clothes away .

That complicates the matter .

Magistrate

I phoned Guerchard to come .

Duke

Magistrate

(Annoyed .)

Guerchard ? Oh well , of course . Guerchard has done

good

work, but he's a crank where Lupin is concerned. I'm
afraid

he'll worry us to death . He's certain to put all this
down

to Lupin .

Duke

I don't think he'll be a crank for that. Look .

(He points to the signatures .)

(Quickly .)

Magistrate

Yes, but it doesn't do to take everything for granted .

(To DUKE who has stopped .)

Don't move that , please .

Duke

It's only a book! By Jove .

(Sharply .)

What is it?

Magistrate

Duke

A foot - print .

(Incredulously .)

Magistrate

How can you possibly say that it's a foot -print ?

Duke

Because plaster shows on a carpet .

Plaster !

Magistrate

Scoobles at the hates,

art, or an alimited

mbis pendants

Duke

The thieves came in from the garden , obviously.

Why?

Magistrate

Duke

There's a half built outhouse there .

consention

So there is . What do you deduce ? - (Come down

2)Magistrate

Duke

(

Goutlook

out

window

)

They rubbed out the other marks but didn't see this one because the book covered it. Under that cushion there may be other marks .

Thi

Magistrate

(Pussily .)

May be, you say . I'll stake my reputation that there are .

Look.

(Picks up cushion , looks, and pauses .)

I was right . M'sieur le Duc, there are no marks.

(Jossession)up stage

Duke

At any rate there's a table suspiciously near the window .

Magistrate

And a ladder . There are always ladders in a half built house . I will look into this .

(ENTER AGENT R. 1. R.)

(MAGISTRATE down in front chair T. COMMISSARY in

front chair 2.)

Agent

The servants have arrived from the Chateau de Charmerace .

Magistrate

Tell them to wait in the kitchen .

(EXIT AGENT .)

(MAGISTRATE goes up to CLERK and consults papers ,

then down R.)

(To the CLERK who has given papers to the DUKE.)

10

I'd like to ask Your Grace some questions.

(Looking at/ report (papers)

I hear there was some tampering with automobiles at the Chateau ,

and that you had already discovered a theft, or an attempted

one... one of your visitors tried to take a valuable pendant ?

(C.)

Duke

Yes... but the poor wretch begged off ...

(L.)

Commissary

Do you think , Judge, that the fellow had any connection with the thieves who broke in here ?

Magistrate

(R.)

None whatever !

(Looks at Report again .)

You got here at half past six this morning . Of course , no

one answered the bell when you rang ?

Duke

No ! I had to wake up a locksmith. Then I went for the Police and took them over the house . I thought that the proper thing to do.

Magistrate

Quite the proper thing .

(MAGISTRATR sits T. DUKE up near deak G. CLERK down with portfolio to S. sits . COMMISSARY seat 2.)

Well I shan't wait any longer for Guerchard . I shall question

the janitor and his wife .

(Beckons to the JANITORS, who ENTER , preceded by
AGENT R. 1. B.)

!

Sit down(AGENT lifts up sofa U. and EXITS R. 1. E.

They sit

JANITRESS 1 - JANITOR 2.)

I am glad to see you are all right .

(They sit.)

You can answer my question now ?

Janitor

On, yes , sir . The burglars shook us up a bit , but they
didn't hurt us .

Janitress

We made very good breakfasts .

Magistrate

So much the better you say you were surprised
while asleep

but that you neither saw or heard anything?

Janitor

We didn't have time . The work was done in a
twinkling .

Magistrate

You heard no one in the garden ?

Janitor

We can't hear anything in our room from the garden .

Janitress

Not even at night . When the dog is out he wakes everybody

up! But if we are sound asleep we don't even hear him on

our side of the house .

(TO COMMISSARY .)

Magistrate

If they were so sound asleep , why were they gagged ?

(To JANITOR .)

You heard no noise at the door ?

Janitor

Not a sound .

Magistrate

And nothing during the night?

Yes , after we were gagged ,

Janitor

From what direction was the noise ?

Magistrate

Janitor

You see we sleep just over ...

Magistrate

What sort of noise was it?

Janitor

A dull sound , footsteps, and the breaking of furniture.

Magistrate

Did you hear a struggle or cries? Be careful .

BOTH

(Looking at each other.)

No.

Are you quite sure ?

Magistrate

11

BOTH

Quite sure, 'sieur.

Magistrate

How long have you been with your present employer?

Fray

A year, M'sieur .

BOTH

Good . I'll see you again .

Magistrate

(BOTH rise and about to go out R. 1. B. and at this moment ENTER the AGENT door L. 1. E. who gives papers

to the MAGESERAT Commissary who glances at it

hands it to the magistrate Sit down !

Wait !

(AGENT hands - paper - to the COMMISSARY who reads

hands to the MAGISTRATE AGENT EXITS .)

1 (More severely .)

I see that you've been in prison twice .

above sofa

and

Janitor

(Comes to R. C. JANITRESS R. DUKE comes down to C ,

behind sofa ,) below sofa

Yes, sir but

(more steepl)

(R. H.)

Janitress

My husband is an honest man, sir , you can ask the Duke .

Magistrate

The first time you were arrested you were detained a day , and then allowed to leave . The second time you were two days in prison ...

(To COMMISSARY .)

It's here .

Janitor

I only shouted " Long Live the Anarchists ". And "Down with the Cops Police !"

Humph! you may go .

Magistrate

(They EXEUNT R. 1. E. The DUKE crosses to R. behind the sofa .)

I feel they are telling the truth .

(Returning to R. C.)

Duke

I think they are honest .

Magistrate

To POLICE .)

The disorder of her

(Rises. ALL rise .

Now we will go to Victoire's room .

bed seems suspicious .

12

Murvingtowards Magistrate)Duke

(Smiling .)

I should like to go with you .

Magistrate

Pray don't jest . This concerns Your Grace pretty
closely .

(EXEUNT the MAGISTRATE , DUKE, COMMISSARY ,
then the

CLERK L. 1. E.)

(The stage is empty . A brief pause; then ENTER
GUERCHARD and AGENT R. 1. E. GUERCHARD sits
on

sofa U. and ties his shoe string . AGENT cross-
es behind sofa to L. C.)

Agent

I'll tell the Magistrate you are here , Monsieur

Guerchard.

Guerchard

Don't trouble yourself , I'm of no consequence ...

(Protesting .)

Agent

Monsieur Guerchard!

Guerchard

None at all , for the moment .

the upper- dog here .

Just

The Examining Magistrate is

He has gone to look at the caretaker's room .

Agent

join them ?

Shall we

(Rises.)

Guerchard

I know my way.

You know ?

Agent

I've just been there myself.

Guerchard

(Bowling .)

Agent

Wonderful! pede.

AGENT follows him.)

Gust

. agent

13

14

Guerchard

Just horse sense.

(Goes up to window C. the Agent follows him)

Agent

(Pointing to ladder)

The thieves entered by that ladder .

Thanks .

Guerchard

Agent

(Xes to stool R. C.)

They left that stool close to the window .

Thanks again .

Guerchard

Agent

(Returns to window)

They don't think it was Lupin , but someone imitating

his

methods .

Thank you once more .

Guerchard

Agent

Can I be of further use to you ?

Guerchard

Yes you can go .

(Exit Agent R. I. E. Guerchard when alone inspects the

room and examines the signatures of Lupin with a magnify-

ing glass . He raises his hat and scratches his head .

Replaces his hat and looks at ladder . Pauses a moment

then goes to safe ; examines it and looks surprised ;

strikes on the safe with the rim of his eye-glasses ,

goes to ladder , stops, examines windows and shutters,

raises his hat and scratches his head , puts back his hat ,

kneels picks up from the carpet a button , puts Th his pocket , gets out of the window on the ladder and dis-

appears . Enter the Magistrate , the Duke , The
Commissary
and Clerk from L. I. B.) Then he drops an
all fours looke
mider Sofa R.C
then rises)

14

Guerchard

Just horse sense.

(Goes up to window C. the Agent follows him)

Agent

(Pointing to ladder)

The thieves entered by that ladder .

Thanks .

Guerchard

Agent

(Xes to stool R. C.)

They left that stool close to the window .

Thanks again .

Guerchard

Agent

(Returns to window)

They don't think it was Lupin , but someone imitating

his

methods .

Thank you once more .

Guerchard

Agent

Can I be of further use to you ?

Guerchard

Yes you can go .

(Exit Agent R. I. E. Guerchard when alone inspects the

room and examines the signatures of Lupin with a magnify-

ing glass . He raises his hat and scratches his head .

Replaces his hat and looks at ladder . Pauses a moment

then goes to safe ; examines it and looks surprised ;

strikes on the safe with the rim of his eye-glasses ,

goes to ladder , stops, examines windows and shutters,

raises his hat and scratches his head , puts back his hat ,

kneels picks up from the carpet a button , puts Th his pocket , gets out of the window on the ladder and dis-

appears . Enter the Magistrate , the Duke , The
Commissary

and Clerk from L. I. B.) Then he drops an
all fours looke

mider Sofa R.C

then rises)

15

Magistrate

I am sure the disorder of her room was intentional . I
believe we have found an accomplice . At least we can
suggest

it to M. Gournay - Martin . At what time will he be
here ?

Duke

If they caught the 8:30 they ought to get in very
early .

(Agent enters R. I. E.)

Agent

(With solemnity)

Messieurs , the family has arrived .

(Enter GOURNAY with GERMAINE , R. I. B. Duke
goes to

Germaine. Clerk goes up to R. G. to his former place

chair above table L.

Gournay

(Crosses directly to L. C. and sits T. R. of table, in a smothered voice.)

Scoundrels ! Villains ! Thieves !

(To C.)

Germaine

Father , you are hoarse with shouting.

Gournay

My beautiful Louis XIV furniture, my Boulle clock , my pictures --

(Sneezes .)

my glorious pictures -- they were priceless.

admne Magistrate

(Seeing him, introduces himself to Gournay who rises and goes to him. C They shake hands . Germaine and Duke

go in front of fireplace L.)

I assure you , sir, I am deeply distressed --

Gournay

It's a tragedy , Judge , a tragedy .

Magistrate

Don't despair , your paintings shall be recovered . At

least

your tiara wasn't stolen .

16

(Comes down betion them) Duke

No, they didn't touch the safe.

(Come down between wagistrate and Gournay .

Germaine

down L. in front of chair 2.)

Gournay

No matter if they did . It was empty .

(General movement)

Magistrate

Empty but your tiara ?

Gournay

It was never in that safe -- it was --

(Whispers to Magistrate)

did they ransack my room ?

Magistrate

No. They did not go above this floor --

Gournay

Then my mind is at rest . The safe in my room had
only two

keys here is one, and, the other is in this safe .

(Sitting chair "T: Germaine sits" R. Commissary
remains

L. beyond Germaine . The Duke is before the window
c.)

Magistrate

(R.)

Then what do you complain of ?

(L. C.)

Gournay

I complain that I have been robbed , pillaged! Where
is

Guerchard? Have you any clue to the thieves ?

Yes .

Magistrate

Gournay

Where ? How ? Who ?

Magistrate

Victoire , the caretaker .

Germaine

vant (L.)

Victoire?

Where is she?

Gournay

Magistrate

Conspicuous by her absence .

Gournay

Absence ?

(Rising excitedly)

Then we must not lose a moment .

Calm yourself --

Magistrate

The (Sits again .)

the Gournay

You are right, I will be calm .

Magistrate

Let (Sits on sofa R. C.)

We have good reason to suspect there are other
accomplices,

and that this robbery was prepared carefully by
people who not

only knew your house well , but also your manner of
living /

Gournay

Eh?

Magistrate

Haven't you been robbed before ?

Gournay

Have I been robbed before ?

(Guerchard, without being noticed , appears on the ladder)

My daughter has been robbed .

When ?

Magistrate

Germaine

Three years ago .

Magistrate

Three years ago ? Why didn't you report your loss to the

police ?

17

18

Germaine

I wanted to do so, but thought it better to dismiss my maid.

Magistrate

Did the thefts then stop ?

No.

Germain

Magistrate

Oh , indeed - then you should have notified us! This is in-

teresting -- do you suspect Victoire ?

Germaine

No. The thefts were committed at the chateau while Victoire

was in Paris .

Magistrate

So much the better , that confirms my hypothesis .

Now, listen .

These thefts began three years ago . Can you tell me when

the first one was committed?

Let me think .

Germaine

Wasn't it in December 1905 ?

Magistrate

Yes . But --

Germaine

I thought so.

Magistrate

(To Commissary)

It was in the month of December 1905 that M.

Gournay -Martin

got a threatening letter and was the victim of a robbery like this of today .

Gournay

That is true .

Magistrate

A robbery , committed like this one , by people who , I repeat , seem to be thoroughly familiar with his habits , and with the value of his possessions .

19

Gournay

Yes , yes.

It will therefore be

Magistrate

interesting to find out who entered your service three years ago .

Gournay

Victoire has only been with us a year . in the

Magistrate

Exactly .

(To Germaine)

When was the last time you were robbed ?

Germaine

About two months ago, I lost a pearl pin , and a pendant --

a little like the pendant you gave me , Jacques .

Magistrate

Oh, yes , I know I see, and this pendant

Germaine

hop

(To the Duke)

You have it, haven't you ?

(Comes downC) Duke

I have

that is to say I have the case .

(TheCommissary(magistrate rises) down L.

Germaine

The case ?

Duke

Yes, the case was empty.

(Hands the case to the Magistrate) who sees)

Germaine

(Rises.)

Empty? That is impossible !

Duke

You had scarcely left when I found the case on the
p . It was empty .

moves

Chiffonier

Magistrate

(Case in his hand)

I thought you had just taken it from the hands of the
young

fellow Charolais?

Duke

I did , three quarters of an hour before . It was
possibly six

o'clock . (receives back the empty case from
magistrate)

Germaine

And I tell you that at half past seven when I went up
to

dress , ten minutes before leaving , the pendant was
in the

case .

Gournay

(Rising excitedly)

Another theft?

Duke

(Goes to him to calm him)

No , no, Irma must have taken it for you , or

Mademoiselle

Krichnoff .

Germaine

It wasn't Sonia Kritchhoff , for in the train she said to me,

" I hope the Duke won't forget to bring your pendant .
"

Then Irma must have it.

Duke

(Gournay sits again)

Germaine

(Xes to door R.3 . to call . Calling)

Irma ! Irma .

(Enter IRMA R. 3. E.)

Irma

(Inderway R.3 .)

Mademoiselle!

Oh , here's Irma .

Germaine

(Goes back to Duke and they remain above table L.
C.)

Magistrate

(To Irma , Magistrate sits on sofa U.)

Come here . Did you bring your Mistress' pearl
pendant ?

20

21

No , sir .

Imma

Are you sure?

par Magistrate

Zon

Yes, sir . Mademoiselle left it on the
beIrma

How do you know that?

Chiffonies.

Magistrate

Ima

As she was leaving , she called out to the Duke , "

Don't forget

my pendant ." I thought at the time , that Mlle .

Krichnoff

might have put it in her bag.

Duke

(Quickly)

Why so?

Guerchard

(Raises himself on the ladder at back of window C. to look at the Duke)

Ah!

Irma

To give it to Mademoiselle .

Why did you think that ?

Magistrate

Irma

Because Mlle . Kritchhoff was standing near the
menpe at

the time .

Chiffonier

Magistrate

How long have you been with Mademoiselle ?

Six months .

Irma

Magistrate

(Rises.)

Very good . I'll talk to you again - you may go.

(Imma starts to go R.. The Magistrate points to L. I. .
she exits then, L. I. B.) (Fourway -rises goesup &
thenmoves to RC with Germaine

Now I will question Mlle. Krichnoff.

(Gournay see and goo Germaine, they get across
to R. by desk G. Magistrate Xes and sits in chair T.

The Agent appears at door , R. 3. E.) *Agent
Duke

Mlle. Krichnoff is above suspicion .

Guerchard

(Again raising his head .)

Hey ?

(Coming infront of sofa) Germaine

That is my opinion too .

Magistrate

How long has Mlle. Krichnoff been with you ?

Germaine

Germaine

Let me see -- exactly three years.

Magistrate

Oh! In what month did she come to you ?

(Germaine is silent)

Wasn't it in December ?

Yes.

Germaine

(General movement)

Magistrate

(To Agent)

Ask Mlle . Kritchnoff to come here .

Yes, sir.

Agent

Duke

(Xing down R.)

I know where she is, I'll find her .

(About to leave the room , R.2. B.)

Guerchard

(C. from ladder C. window)

No , you don't, sir.

22

What ?

All

(Turn toward him)

(To Agent)

Guerchard

You go.

(Exit Agent R. 3. E.)

Duke

Excuse me, but --

(Up to C.)

Guerchard

(Coming from the ladder , window C.)

Don't be angry, Your Grace . The Magistrate agrees with me.

Duke

(They come down C.)

Who are you?

Guerchard

Guerchard, Your Grace Chief Inspector of the Secret Police .

Duke

Oh!

(They look at each other and in a second the Duke sudden-

ly recovering himself .)

Happy to meet you , sir?

(Duke and Guerchard shake hands . Duke goes up to Ger-

maine between her and Gournay .

with the Magistrate , L. H.)

Guerchard shakes hands

Magistrate

What were you doing on that ladder ?

Guerchard

Listening to you . I congratulate you. Very neat work indeed .

We differ slightly on one or two small points , but , otherwise

-- Gentlemen.

(Shakes hands with Gournay R. C. then goes above table

L. c. to L. shakes hands with Commissary and goes in front of chair 2. Magistrate sits T. Guerchard 2. Agent enters R.3 . B. preceding Sonia . The Clerk comes down to chair S.)

23

24

(Enter Sonia, H. 3. B. she wears her travelling costume

and has a cloak over her arm. She stops at the door ,

surprised and worried . The Agent precedes Sonia
and Xes

to Magistrate L. C. Sonia Xes behind sofa Uputs coat
on R Cato sofait slips down . The Duke goes to
pick it up taking pendant from pocket - he then
goes to Germaine . Sonia to C. of stage. She has bag
in
hand .)

Magistrate

(To Agent)

Was she going out? I told you no one was to leave the
house .

Agent

She asked permission to go.

Magistrate

Go to her room and search her trunk.

(Glook bus, dusing these lines)

Guerchard

(In low tone to the Magistrate)

You need not trouble to do that.

Eh? What?

Magistrate

Guerchard

(Rises, to Magistrate)

Allow me ! (agentwithdoor R3)(Xes in front of table to.

Somsa e Rof the Magistrate)

(To Sonia) (She moves toC)

Mademoiselle , the pendant the Duke gave to Mlle .

Gournay--

Martin has been stolen. (Duke picks upcloakfrom the
flore

Hakes Pendant from the pocket

then lays the cloak carefully

over The Lower arm of

during thefollowingfollowing Nine

Sonia

Stolen -- are you sure ?

Guerchard

Absolutely.

(Watches her closely)

The theft was committed under conditions very
peculiar and

marked . We have reason to believe that the guilty
party

has hidden the jewel in the traveling bag of some one
else ,

in order to escape detection. Your bag ?

(Quickly)

Sonia

It is in my room , here's the key ?

Guerchard

(After exchanging a look with the Magistrate)

Have you other luggage ?

Sonia

Yes, my trunk , it is upstairs ; open .

Guerchard

You were just going out , weren't you ?

Sonia

I asked permission . I have several things to do .

Guerchard

(Looking at the Magistrate)

There can be no objection to --

(Signing to him to assent)

this young lady going out?

None whatever.

Magistrate

(To Sonia)

Guerchard

You are only taking this bag ?

Sonia

(Holding it out to him)

Yes, my money is in it and my handkerchief . Nothing else .

Guerchard

That's all right . It's obvious no pendant could be put in there .

(Sonia starts to go R. I. E. opens the door , stops, then returns for her cloak . Guerchard, quickly)

Allow me.

Sonia

Thank you, I won't put it on.

Querchard

Just one moment . The cloak has pockets . Perhaps someone

25

might have --

Sonia

(Hand on pocket .)

You go too far , Monsieur ; you seem to think ----

Guerchard

Excuse me, Mademoiselle , but sometimes we are

obliged ---

(She go Duke

Mademoiselle , I don't see why this slight formality
should

annoy you.

But---

Sonia

(Duke looking at her fixedly)

Duke

You need have no anxiety .

(Sonia looks at him, then gives the mantle to
Guerchard.

He looks in the pockets and finds nothing but a piece
of tissue paper)

Guerchard

(Between his teeth.)

No longer there --

(Aloud)

A thousand thanks , Mademoiselle .

(Moves to C. L. Looks at paper .)

(Sonia starts to go and totters R. H.)

Duke

(Hastening to her side)

Are you ill?

Sonia

No You have saved me. Thanks .

Guerchard

I am so sorry --

Thank you . I shall be all right now .

Sonia

(Exit R. I. E.)

226

Guerchard

(C. to Duke .)

In your place , I'd keep that paper. The mark where
the pen-

dant was pinned shows plainly .

(Gives it to him -- Duke tosses it away)

(e . Germaine

a point up c)t

(To her father)

Poor Sonia ! What an ordeal ! I must go and console
her.

(She goes out after Sonia R. I. E.)

Magistrate

We're on the wrong track, Guerchard.

(Low to Judge)

Guerchard

No one must leave without my permission .

(Stoops to pick up the paper which the Duke tossed aside , and suddenly utters an exclamation of smothered

surprise and drops on his hands and knees - looking to L. H. up)

Magistrate '

The order has already been given .

(He looks in amazement at Guerchard who is on his hands

and knees on the floor. Enter Agent R. 3. E. to C.)

Agent

Judge , if you please ...

Magistrate

(L C.) turning)

What ?

Agent

This torn piece of cloth was found in the garden near the

well .

(Guerchard rises and down C.)

The Janitors identify it as a piece of the care -taker's dress .

Magistrate

Very singular.

(He takes the piece of stuff. Agent up to R. 3. E.)

(R. C.)

Gourney

Here is the explanation . She has been murdered .

27

Magistrate

(L. C.)

We must look into this perhaps, after all----

Guerchard

(C. taking cloth from Magistrate)

No.

(Angrily)

Magistrate

But what about this piece of cloth ?.

Guerchard

(To Gournay)

Have you a dog or a cat in the house ?

Guerchard, no levity .

Magistrate

Guerchard

Excuse me, this is important .

I think there was a cat belonging to Victoire .

Gournay

Guerchard

Well , that rag was carried into the garden by the cat .

You

can see the marks of a cat's claws in it.

Magistrate

You are crazy. It's a question of murder ; perhaps , the
mur-

der of Victoire .

Guerchard

Victoire has not been assassinated .

Magistrate

No one knows that.

I do .

Guerchard

You ?

Magistrate

Guerchard

I.

28

Magistrate

Then how can you explain her disappearance ?

Guerchard

If she had disappeared I couldn't explain it.

(Angrily)

Magistrate

But she has disappeared .

No.

Guerchard

You know nothing about it?

Magistrate

Don't I?

Guerchard

Do you know where she is?

Magistrate

Guerchard

Yes.

Magistrate

Then tell us. Have you seen her ?

Guerchard

Yes , I've seen her .

Magistrate

When ?

Gerchard

A few minutes ago ?

Why, you haven't been out of this room .

Magistrate

Guerchard

No.

Magistrate

Yet you say you've seen her?

Guerchard

Yes.

29

Magistrate

Then tell us where she is?

You won't let me .

Querchard

(Beside himself)

Magistrate

Speak ! Speak !

Querchard

She's here !

ing abous.

Magistrate

Here ! What do you mean ?

Guerchard

In an armchair.

Magistrate

Guerchard, enough of this foolery .

(X. down L. H.)

Guerchard

See for yourself.

(He lifts up the drapery over the back of the arm -
chair ,

moves the screen , upsets a chair, and turns the arm-
chair around . Victoire is discovered , gagged , bo und
and with a bandage over her eyes)

(Commissary up with him to assist in removing
furniture.

The Clerk rises and stands in front of safe L. H.

Every body follows the movement)

Magistrate

How on earth did you discover this ?

(They untie Victoire . Agent Xes to assist

Commissary)

3030

Duke goes

Guerchard

Movesdoron CC.Agent Commoney release Victoire).

A great deal can be discovered by crawling about .

On all fours one can see two heels sticking out -- and ,
beginning with the heels --

Magistrate

(Pompously).

Carry her into that room --

(R. 3. E.)

and lay her down . We will question her when she is in
a fit condition.

(Agent and Commissary carry Victoire off R.3.

B.followed

followed by Gournay)

(To Guerchard)

alute.)

This changes everything .

completely non - plussed .

I don't understand . I'm

And you ?

byThe

31

32

Ouf ! Ouf !

Guerchard

(The Duke goes in front of the fireplace)

Magistrate

Isn't your brain in a whirl ?

(Xing in front of Guerchard)

Guerchard

I have my theory -- for instance , suppose that Arsene
Lupin --

(They exeunt into parlor R. 3.E.)

Duke

(Glances into the next room in order to see that
no one is watching him, then takes the pendant from
his pocket and looks at it back of table R.)

Sonia! Sonia !

(Enter SONIA from R. I.E. Duke turns and sees her)

You ! A thief!

(In front of sofa U., gives inarticulate cry)

Sonia

Oh!

Duke

Be careful . Don't stand there.

Sonia

Are you go al your hands of

Duke

let me speak to you .

Guerchard is suspicious. We can't talk here .

Sonia

What must you think of me now?

Lower speak lower .

Duke

(Sits on sofa R.C. Duke approaches her)

What does it matter ? I have lost your friendship.

Sonia

What are the

Nothing they

Duke

Speak lower later we must come to an
understanding .

Sonia

No, at once I must speak to you , now .

Duke

I will see you another time that will be better .

Sonia

No, no, at once -- you must know the truth -
to you. What can I say ? I am a the

I must speak

thief.

My poor girl .

Duke

Sonia

Yes, poor girl ! For after all it isn't fair - she ,
Germaine has everything She is rich she takes you
away from me he will have you all her life to herself-
she has everything -- I , nothing . The thief -- she is
the thief!

Take care !

Duke

Sonia

Yesterday , before me ,

She was very proud , I

to

you gave her

saw herjoy-

take

de 16 Oky how I hate her.

it drone me mad -

(Re -enter GUERCHARD , R.3.B.)

that pendant

Everything

the smiled ,
then, tees , I took it, I would
ature away from her-
Excuse me , if I disturb
(Picks up
Guerchard
paper dag voditehis leftontableL.C.)and goes out
R.3.E.)
not- itsSonia hel
I know what you're thinking. You're thinking that this
is
not my first step. No, it's the tenth , twentieth ,
perhaps ;
yes , I am a thief. But there is one thing you must
know , you
must believe ? Since your return , since I've known
you , from
the first day you looked at me, I, have never stolen
any-
thing. Do you believe me ? relived differentlyChies
on't pushme brak - help me-don't push back!)

Yes !

(Turns and goes up stage a little)

Sonia

Oh , if you only knew

horror of it --- how such things begin -- the

Duke

I pity you .

Sonia

Yes, you pity me , you despise me, but you must not --

I

won't have seten.

Duke

(Returning to her)

You must be calm .

Sonia

(Rising)

Listen Have you ever been alone in the world ? I have been

alone . Have you ever wanted bread? -- I have been hungry .

Oneday I was starving , yet I had only to hold out my hand--

to take bread -- bread worth a sou....

(Sobs) Kind

(Gently)

He won neyDuke

Go on.

I went to a

man I had

Well, it Sonia waited. met asked

Reef me

I didn't take the bread that day, though I was near
dying . him to

An hour afterwards , I looked at the door of a man
whom I

knew slightly it was my last resource. At first , was
content , he gave me food and drink champagne then
he

talked to me and offered me money But oh , I couldn't

--

then I stole from him.. I preferred to steal! It was less
wicked hole.

Poor child !

Duke

I continued Sonia

continued to do so, to seem an honest woman

to be honest with myself – that sounds
& Ruck meyang- L
free

I became a thing- s stole
34

That sounds like
underland. Do it -lank. 35

a jest . But you won't laugh at it . Oh, my God !
My God!

) inks on sofa)
(Sitting beside her)

Poor , poor child .
Duke

S

Sonia

Ah ! You pity me!

t , that has nothing

Duke

My poor little Sonia ! (Duke put his hand & Handt
face over his hand, Kissing it) Sonia (Rises)

(She- takes -and-and

Duke moves -to -b .)

(In the doorway)

(Sonia stops)

Oh!

Omnia's hands she bends her

Good - bye .-(move towards door R.1. then turns
to him) I love you !

She moves to door R.I. , when GUERCHARD enters
R ... Duke rises)

I wish to speak to you , mademoiselle .

Guerchard

The Magistrate has changed his mind . You cannot
leave here -

no one can go .

Sonia

Guerchard

If you will kindly go to your room your meals will be
served to you there .

Refuse.

Sonia

But mademoiselle -

(After a look from the Duke - she goes stage to D)

Very good , I will go to my room . (Guerchard
steps aside up to

(Exit Sonia , P.I.E.)

(Moves 82.C.) Duke

allow her to pass)

Monsieur Guerchard, such conduct ---

^

36

Guerchard

Your Grace , I am sorry not to seem sympathetic . But
it's

my trade or if you prefer the word -- my duty .

Duke

At this point you can certainly stop .

(Guerchard makes a doubtful gesture)

For even if she had taken the pendant , that has
nothing

to do with the robbery here .

Guerchard

That's my opinion , too; but the Magistrate doesn't
agree

with me... Things have happened that only I know
about, and

they are not very clear to me yet . On the receipt of
this telegram your future father -in - law has taken to
his

bed .

(Gives him telegram)

Duke

(Glancing at it, shrugs his shoulders)

And out of this you have constructed something terrible!

Guerchard

Huh ! Huh ! 4006

Duke

(To Magistrate , who enters with the COMMISSARY,
R.3.E.

X to them)

See , gentlemen , M. Guerchard seems to take this telegram

seriously.

Magistrate

Give it to me.

(Takes it and reads it)

(Guerchard exits L. I.E. slowly)

" Excuse me a thousand times for not having kept my promise

in regard to the tiara. I had an appointment in the Bois .

I beg that you will have the tiara waiting for me
tonight

in your room. I will be there to receive it between a
quarter to twelve and midnight . Yours devotedly,
Arsene

Lupin ." It's absolutely idiotic .

(R /)

It's imbecile!

Commissary

Magistrate

(R. C.)

What do you say to this, Guerchard?

(Looking around)

Where has he gone now ?

He must have gone home .

Commissary

and I came

Givetelegramsto commedayMagistrate

So much the better . When it's a question of Lupin ,

I'm

sorry to say Guerchard loses his head . Now , you see
if

Lupin had really been herelast night , and if he

coveted

the tiara, he would have tried to break open the safe
in

M. Gournay's room , or get into the safe down here ,
where

M. Gournay locked up the second key .

(The Magistrate goes in front of sofa L. Commissary
and Duke above fireplace L. C.)

Of course !

Commissary

Magistrate

So as he did not try to get it, when he had a good
chance ,

and when the house was empty , he certainly will not
try to

take it after we are warned , with the police on the
spot and

the place watched . Gentlemen, this last alarm is
absurd and

worries me as to the condition of Guerchard's brain.

Explosive puff

(At this moment a noise , is heard in the safe L. 2. E.

They all turn. The door is opened quickly and

GUERCHARD comes out of the safe) У вис

All Que Safe

Querchard!

Guerchard

It's kind of you . But pray don't be alarmed about my brain.

Magistrate

(Falls back to C.)

How the devil did you get into that safe?

37

Huerchard

It was easy to get in the difficulty was to get out . They left some dynamite in there and I came near

being blown up with the door .

How did you get in?

Magistrate

Guerchard

Through the other side . A

(Guerchard goes into quickly thro' door behind it and re - enters L. I.E. to C.)

The back of it has been burst open .

What ?

All

(Movingke) Guerchard

Ber

May

+Due

They broke it open after all . It was a fine piece of work .

Magistrate

But the key -- the key of the safe upstairs ! Did you find it?

Guerchard

No, but I've found something better .

What is it?

All

Guerchard

I give you a dozen guesses .

Magistrate

I don't guess . Tell me what it is, please .

Guerchard

I advise you to guess .

(Furious)

Magistrate

Guerchard ! Don't trifle . What is it ?

38

39

(Help a piece of pasteboard) under Magestratis nose)

Extending

Arsene Lupin's card .

Guerchard

The devil !

Magistrate

(Reading)

Guerchard

" Arsene Lupin returns thanks for polite inquiries . +
steal therefore --anpll

The Drop Curtain Falls

ARSENE LUPIN

ACT 3 , Same set as Act 2

TRAP

CLOSED

TWI Telephone

Ary

Chair □□□□

The

erean

in

frontchair

Tatle

R

chair

Medallion

Alldoors closed at rise

Change positions of furniture

to arrespond with above,

Use smallchair's instead of at points

Indicated ,

Same

41

Act III

SHEON SCENE : as Act II Slight changes in
disposition of

DI DISCOVERED :

have

(The Clock set to 9:35

atrise)

furniture. See diagram . Same
scene , same night . Chandelier
lighted ; stage empty.

The screen in front of fireplace

falls suddenly. GUERCHARD appears
in the fireplace, with a lantern
in his hand , calling up the chimney ,
to the DUKE .

Guerchard

Is it too heavy for your Grace ?

Tour

No.

Duke

(Up chimney)

Guerchard

The hole is big enough . Have you got the rope tight?

Yes. Look out .

Duke

(Guerchard takes a sharp step back and a loud noise
is heard in the chimney . A large piece of stone falls .)

(Moves to C.)

Guerchard

me

That was a narrow shave for Did you drop the rope?

Duke

(Comes down smiling through fireplace . He is in
evening dress, covered by a large duster .)

The rope dropped me. It was badly fastened . At the
same
time you're perfectly right . You've found the way they
came
in .

Guerchard

All other theories were puerile .
a ladder , a stool near the window .
clues for an Examining Magistrate
(Moves to R.)

Duke

Then the real clue ---?
Bootsteps in the garden ,
Those were good enough "
not for me .

Guerchard

And

We have found it together. This house and the empty
house next door , are connected by this fire - place .
through a hole bored in the back of the fire -place,
Lupin and
his gang carried off their booty.
(Smiling)

Duke

Sure it was Tupin?

Guerchard

We have every proof . pieces of broken picture -
frames , threads
of tapestry , All show the road they took. once in this
house they could leave when they pleased by the front
door of
the other .

Duke

(Leaves the fire - place and goes to Guerchard)

Do you think they used the main staircase of the other
house ?

Guerchard

I'm sure they did . It was on the main staircase that I
found these flowers . They are still fresh .

Duke

Yesterday I wore a boutonniere like that myself . It's
the
pretty flower known as Salvia .

Guerchard

Yes , pink salvia .

(Locks intently at Duke)

I only know of one gardner who has been able to get this

particular color . It's the gardener of your father -in-law,

M. Gournay Martin . future

Duke

Then the thieves last night -- Why yes , Could it have been ---

What's your idea ?

Guerchard

Duke

I was thinking of the charolais .

Not bad for an amateur .

Guerchard

Duke

It's fascinating . Now if we only had a proof-

We'll have one presently.

Guerchard

What sort of proof ?

Duke

Guerchard

I telephoned to charmerace . The gardener was away , but as

soon as he gets back he'll call me. Then we will know
who has
been in the conservatories yesterday .

42

(Goes up R. behind the sofa U.)

(Sitting chair S.
cigarette case .)

Duke

L. of table R. and pulls out his

Undeniably fascinating . How curiously these clues
present

themselves... these traces , that little by little , crop
up ,

cross and inter twine. It's fascinating . Will you have a
cigarette ?

American ?

Guerchard

Duke

No , Turkish --- yellow Turkish Khedives . Rather
nice .

Guerchard

Not for me, thank you , Monsieur le Duc .

(Up R. C. and rings bell.)

(Smoking)

Duke

it's fascinating The thieves came from Charmerace--
They are the Charolais. They came in through the
house next
door ...

Guerchard

(Coming down between the sofa U. and table R.)

Not at all .

Duke

No?

Guerchard

No. They entered by the door of this house .

Duke

Who opened it? They must have had an accomplice ...
They did .

Guerchard

Duke

Who was it?

Guerchard

Yes

(BOURSIN enters L.1.E.)

Bring in Victoire , the care - taker .)

(Exit Boursin L.1 . E.)

Duke

Why , the Examining Magistrate questioned her this afternoon .

I thought he believed her too much of a fool to be guilty .

43

Guerchard

(Coming around back of Duke to C.)

Your Grace , there has only been one real fool in this whole affair .

(Seated)

Duke

Who is it?

(Down C.)

Guerchard

The Examining Magistrate .

(Enter Boursin and VICTOIRE , L.1.B.)

(Comes to front of chair L.C.) Victoire

mean to toast me -- hey ? Going to put me on the rack again?

(c)

Guerchard

(Boursin remains L.)

Sit down .

(Victoire sits L.C. (2)

You sleep in the attic

in the roof ?

with only one window , and that's

Victoire

What's that to you ? Who cares where I sleep?

Answer .

Guerchard

Victoire

I answered the other Judge . He was a nic e , smooth
man .

But you ... well , you don't like me .

Guerchard

You spent the night in your attic and hãrd no noise on
the

roof ?

victoire

What's this about the roof ? My goodness!

you heard nothing ?

Guerchard

Victoire

I heard noises on the stairs . I came into the drawing -
room

and saw what I saw.

What did you see ?

Guerchard

Victoire

Burglar s . They got out of the window and made off
with

sacks full of things .

44

45

Guerchard

You swear it was the window ?

Yes, I do .

Victoire

Guerchard

Not the fireplace?

Fire -place

luck .

-

Victoire

escape through a fire - place ? Oh , bad luck , bad

(To Guerchard)

Duke

She seems a decent sort of a person .

(To Victoire)

Querchard

Where did they tie you up ?

Victoire

On a mattress, in the fireplace , behind the armchair.

Guerchard

But when you first entered ?...

Victoire

The armchair wasn't there, then.

Guerchard

Show me where it was arm chair

(Victoiregoes up to the place with Guerchard)

Wait ! You mustn't move it, without marking the place
the

exact four feet . Let's see ! You do the sewing for the
household. Have you a piece of tailor's chalk?

Victoire

Chalk '. Tailor's chalk! Sure. G

(She raises her skirt to search in her pocket , then
changes hermind)

Idomow why I said that no, I've no chalk.

Guerchard

Are you sure? I prefer to find out.

(Seizes her . Searches in her dress . She fights)

Victoire

Let me alone , let me alone . You're sing

(Excited)

Guerchard

At last ! Boursin , cart her away !

Victoire

Where to? I am innocent. Are you going to make me
out a

thief for a piece of tailor's chalk ?

That's all right.

Guerchard

(To Boursin)

Call up the Prison Van and take this woman to the
station

house .

Victoir

I won't go. I am innocent. I'm an honest woman .

(Guerchard motions Boursin to take her out. Boursin
lets Victoire pass before him and exit R.I.E. , and

follows her out)

(Guerchard passes behind table to door R.I.E. then
up to

telephone on desk C. Duke followe - him - up

Guerchard

I've caught one at any rate. (buke moves toLC)

Duke

remaining C.)

Victoire! I can't get over it. That chalk was the same?

Guerchard

The same red chalk. With that, and the flower you had
in your

buttonhole-

(BOURSIN appears at door R. I.B., remains on
threshold)

What is it?

(Goes to him)

Boursin

Bonavert has something to tell you .

46

(Duke goes to chair S. left of table sits and
smokes a cigarette)

Ah !

Guerchard

(Enter BONAVERT, R.I.E.)

Well , what is it?

You Bon.

Three motor -cars stood in front of the next house to this at five this morning .

Who told you ?

Guerchard

Bon .

A rag- picker . He saw them drive away .

Go on - go on.

Guerchard

Bon .

About the same time a man left that house dressed as a

chauffeur .

(Quickly)

Guerchard & Duke

Ha !

Bon .

Once out of the house he threw away his cigarette .

The rag-

picker picked it up --

Duke

(Liftlessly)

And smoked it?

Bon .

No , here it is.

Guerchard

(Taking it and examining it)

A cigarette with a gilt end, marked Khedive . Why,

Duke ,

you smoke these cigarettes.

47

Duke

That's strange .

Guerchard

On the contrary , it's simple .

(After a pause Guerchard makes a sign to Boursin and Bonavert to go out . They do so R.I.B. He then moves to L. Xing behind the Duke)

You had cigarettes like these at Charmerace , didn't you ?

Duke

Boxes of them on every table.

Well ?

(Laughing)

Guerchard

Duke

I see. The Charolais borrowed a box .

what Guerchard

Dear , dear , how unscrupulous borrowers!

Duke

(Laughing)

And I am thinking --

Guerchard

What ?

Duke

About Lupin .

Well ?

Guerchard

Duke

As Arsene Lupin was here last night , and you found
these

flowers next door Lupin must have come from

Charmerace .

Who knows?

Guerchard

Duke

And Lupinha Lupin must be one of the Charolais .

48

Perhaps !

Guerchard

Duke

Perhaps , why it's certain , certain, we've found the
best
clue yet .

You

(Facing the Duke)

Guerchard

Your Grace is clever . What a detective you would
make .

Only , we're not sureyet.

Duke

I'll vow he was at Charmerace , yesterday. It was he
who
arranged to have the motors stolen .

Guerchard

Possibly. If he remained incog .

Duke

How could he ? In what way? Oh , I'd give a fortune to
see

this remarkable man .

Guerchard

You'll see him to-night , for nothing .

Tonight?

Duke

(Mons easily to LC) Guerchard

He is coming to get the tiara between a quarter to twelve and midnight.

Duke

Do you think he'll really have the audacity to attempt it?

Guerchard

(Sitting astride chair 2 L. C.)

Your Grace doesn't know the fellow . He is the most extra-

ordinary mixture of audacity and calmness. Danger attracts

him . He throws himself into the fire and isn't burned . For

ten years I've been trying to get hold of him . Each time I

say I've got him and I will get him yet-- I say it every

day .

Well ? Duke

49

50

Guerchard

Well , the days slip away , and so does he. Oh, he's clever .

An artist in crime.

Duke

You think he will come to -night ?

Guerchard

(Rises)

Your Grace has followed all the clues with me -- we have

taken up every thread and together. You've almost seen this man

at work . You understand him -- now don't you think such a man

is equal to anything?

(Faces the Duke)

I certainly do .

Duke

(A knock is heard)

Guerchard

(Xes behind Duke to door R. I.B.)

Come in !

Boursin

(Enter R. I. E., and giving Guerchard a paper)

From the Magistrate !

(Exit Boursin , R. I.B.)

What is it?

Duke

Guerchard

Nothing - (ph a little)

about

(Enter IRMA , L. I.E.)

Irma

M'lle. Kritchnoff wishes to know if the Duke will see
her

for a moment .

Duke

Where is she?

Irma

In rademoiselle Germaine's room .

Duke

(Rises and going towards Irma , L.I.E.)

Say I'll be there in a moment .

Guerchard

(Moves to C. Firmly)

no.

Duke

Why not?

I must ask you ...

Guerchard , Her

diese

.I'll come back .

Duke

Guerchard

I must speak to you before you go .

Duke

(Looks at the paper in Guerchard's hand)

Tell M'lle KtibhnoffI'm in the drawing room.

Oh!

Irma

Is that all , sir?

Duke

Say I'm in the drawing room and will be busy for
about

ten minutes -- tell her just that

(Exit Irma , L. I.E.)

She'll understand that I'm with you .

(Returning to Guerchard C.)

Now tell me what's wrong ?

Guerchard

I've received this note from the Examining Magistrate
.

Duke

Well !

51

Guerchard

It's an order for her arrest .

Duke

Her arrest !

Guerchard

(Showing order)

Yes . ee tho

Duke

Come , come you can't arrest her .

Guerchard

There's nothing else for me to do. Her cross-
examination

went terribly against her . Her evidence was most

contra-

dictory . Believe me , against M'lle Kirchnoff '
personally ,

I have no animosity.

Duke

But you're going to arrest her !

Guerchard

(Up to hell E. C.)

(Duke up C.)

I must .

(About to ring)

Duke

Onemoment , I beg of you . She's now with my fiancée
, in

her room . Wait until she has gone to her own
apartment .

At least , spare her what humiliation you can .

No, no , Duke !

Guerchard

(He rings)

Duke

Oh!

Guerchard

(To Boursin , who enters R. I.E.)

I have an order to arrest M'lle Kirchnoff tell Dieusy to
52

put it off a half an hour . Is the Sergeant of Police
still at the door ?

Yes , sir .

Boursin

Guerchard

Tell him no one must leave this house without an
order from

me- I a written order .

(Exit Boursin , R. I.E.)

Duke

(Sitting chair L. c. (2)

Poor girl !

(nearer R)

Guerchard

I pity her, too.

Duke

It's unjust , it's wrong . There must be something
else /

I know it. But it proves nothing against her .

Guerchard

(Between his teeth)

Come , come !

(Up above table "R " and around to C.)

Duke

Even if she did go to the hot - house at Charmerace
yesterday,

to gather flowers , that doesn't prove that she gave
them

to one of the Charolais.

53

Guerchard

(Between his teeth)

Come , come' , come ! Duke rd

And besides those flowers -- I saw the ones she
gather the stems were much longer , and she used
wire .

(Guerchard says nothing but just looks at the
Duke)

Good God , did you find them !

(Guerchard continues to stare at him)

Those wired flowers , in the attic of the house next
door , you found them?

Guerchard

In the attic? of the house next door .

Duke

Oh! Guerchard! Don't ruin her, don't -

(Guerchard walks up and down the room , and goes toward the fireplace- takes his overcoat off and places it on chair N.)

54

55

(Duke rises)

What are you about to do? Tell me you wont denounce her .

Guerchard

55

Your Grace has said too much .

Why?

Duke

Guerchard

I must remind you of your position in this house .

Guerchard--

Duke

Guerchard

You are about to become the son-in- law of Mt.

Gournay-

Martin , and you are upholding the cause of a thief.

(Looks intently at Duke)

Possibly an accomplice of Lupin himself .

(Duke lowers his head)

Come , is this worthy of your Grace ?

You are right . But you have no proof against her .

Duke

Guerchard

You've furnished it yourself . If her flowers were found in the house next to this , it's because she knew the way

there.

(Xing to R.

Duke

Distressed)

And it's I, I, who've put you on her track.

Guerchard

(Goes to fireplace L. and lights lantern)

The lantern . Will your Grace please to hold it while I climb through the hole in the fireplace.

Duke

You'll find nothing against her , nothing .

Guerchard

I appeal to you as a man of honor . Will you hold the lantern to light me ?

Duke

(After a struggle , than in a low tone)

Hold it out as far as youGuanchard

Yes .

Yes .

Duke

or 1.

Guerchard

For five minutes --- It won't tire you ?

C to Duke

No. No.

at aine a'clock,

Guerchard

(Going into the fireplace, then aside)

In this way I hall know that he doesn't leave the room .

(Disappears into fireplace. The Duke , after a moment

turns an iron which is in the fireplace, and hangs the lantern on it. Then he puts it back (crane) in the fireplace.)

I think that will do.

Duke

(Voice heard)

Guerchard

Yes , that's right . Very good .

(Duke Xes to door L.1.E. and opens it. Enter SONIA veiled and dressed to go out .)

Duke

Be quick !

Sonia

hether ? You sent for me - whatis

Duke

They want to arrest you .

Sonia

I feared it .

Duke

An order's been issued to take you away .

I am lost .

(Xes to R. H.)

Sonia

Duke

You must leave here .

Sonia

How ? Guerchar d ? --

S

>

it?

56

Duke

I've played a little comedy . I've sent him up the chimney .

If I could only laugh.

Sonia

(Sighing)

Duke

or I. Listen . Come to me tomorrow morning at nine o'clock .

Nine o'clock !

Sonia

Duke

Yes , but in case anything happens at half past eight

that's right -- Can I telephone you ?

Sonia

Yes . I know where to go -

Arc de Triomphe.

to that little house, near the
Duke

And your telephone number ?

Sonia

555-14.

Duke

(Puts it down on his cuff)

Good .

But how to get out of here ?

Sonia

Querchard

(off in chimney)

Your Grace ?

Listen !

Sonia

Duke

Guerchard

Hush .

(off)

Can you raise the lantern a little higher ?

(In the fireplace)

Wait , I'll try .

Duke

(To Sonia , pointing to Guerchard's coat on chair N.)
His pocket -book's there in that coat . Take it quick,
quick!

(She gets it .)

57

Sonia

Guerchard

(off)

Yes , that's right .

(Sonia gives Duke the pocket - book and he takes a
card
out of it .)

Duke

(Goes into fireplace and calls up)

My hand trembles.

I can't hold the lantern much higher .

Guerchard

((off)

A little more to the right.

(Duke motions to Sonia -- she goes across in front of
table R. to fireplace takes lantern and hangs it in
left side of fireplace.)

Duke

(To Sonia as he writes)

Turn the hook to the right .

(Sonia turns the hook in the fireplace follows his movements inna kind of terrified stupor .)

That's right .

(To Guerchard - speaking in the chimney)

Is that better ?

Guerchard

Yes.

(off)

Duke

(To Sonia)

Give card to the Sergeant at the door .

his

Sonia

(Looking at what the Duke has written)

No no I don't want to go .

Duke

Why not ?

Sonia

I can't . If they should suspect -- if they should find out...

Duke

They can't for half an hour , and then you will be far away .

Sonia

I am thinking of you - you are taking a terrible risk for me.

58

Duke

(Pushing her towards door R. 1 E.)

Go! Go, I tell you .

When Guerchard learns of this - ?

Sonia

Duke

Never mind about that. I'm the Duke de Charmerace ,
he can't
harm me.

(Noise in the fireplace)

Go! If you love me , go!

(Pushes her towards door R. U. E.)

Go!

(At the threshold they look at each other a moment's
hesitation) (EXIL Sonia R. 1 E. He replaces the hook
With his L. hand and with R. hand raises the lantern
te

the chimney)

(off in a loud voice)

Guerchard

I'm coming down -you can take away the lantern .

Duke

(His voice and hands trembling , as he listens anxiously)

The lantern -

yes .

(At this moment , R. H. the noise of a door is heard to close heavily . He breathes deeply)

(He leans on his L. hand which is resting on the mantel-

piece , for an instant then he pulls himself together with a look of triumph)

Gone !

(Enter GUERCHARD down the chimney)

Guerchard

(Comes down R. C.)

Well- I didn't find any flowers :

(Surprised)

Duke

Indeed .

Guerchard

No. Are you quite sure you saw them in the attic of the

house next door ?

Duke

Quite certain . You can't have looked carefully-

(Moves down C.)

if I were you I'd go and have another look .

Guerchard

No.

59

Duke

Oh! As you wish .

Yes !

Guerchard

(Wiping his hands one against the other)

But it is strange --- very strange , don't you think so?

Duke

Yes I think it is strange that you didn't find the flowers

.

(Guerchard looks at Duke . Duke smiles ; Guerchard goes up

stage and rings bell . Then walks to and fro

BOURSIN R.1 /E.) pushbutton R.C.
back of table "G ")

Guerchard

(Down back of sofa V.)

Boursin , Krithnoff her time's up .

and enter

XDuke movest

freefolger lands

with his back i

it)

(The is leaning against themantel watching
scene)Duke

Boursin

Mademoiselle Kirchnoff has left the house .

Who let her go?

Guerchard

The Sergeant of Police -

Boursin

Guerchard

But he should have had an order my signature -

(Handing card)

Boursin

Here it is your card with your signature .

Guerchard

(Taking it and examining)

Eh! A forged one!

(Looks at the Duke for a moment)

That will do.

(Exit BOURSIN R.1 . E.) (Guerchard goes to his overcoat on

chair N. takes out pocketbook counts cards - notes that

one is missing about to put on his overcoat - the Duke advances to assist him he declines, with thanks - rings

bell Duke returns to mantel L.C.) (Guerchard

goes to bell and rings it. Re- enter Boursin R. 1.E.)

Boursin , let the caretaker Victoire be put in the prison van at

Guerchard

Boursin

once .

Why , governor , she was taken away nearly an hour ago . The van

60

was here at half past nine .

Guerchard

Half past nine . It was ordered for half past ten.
Then we can send the other van away .

Boursin

What other van ?

Guerchard

Boursin

Why, the prison van that had just come?

What are you talking about ?

Guerd ard

Didn't you order two vans ?

Boursin

Guerchard

Two?

Boursin

Yes , governor , two.

In which van did you put Victoire ?

Gue rchard

In the first one , of course .

Boursin

guerchard

Did you knw the men --- the man who drove. And the
men in

charge : would you recognize them again ?

Boursin

No.

No ?

Guerchard

Boursin

No , they were new to me .

Guerchard

(xing back of t able U / to C.)

Idiot ! We've been duped . This is another of Lupin's tricks .

(To Boursin)

Instead of standing there with your mouth open - go and

61

search Victoire's room .

Boursin

Bonavett has searched it .

Call him.

Guerchard

Boursin

(Goes to do or and calls R.1E .)

Bonavert!

(Enter BONAVERT R.1.E.)

(moves to Bonavert ,front of table R) Guerchard
Did you search Victoire's trunk?

Bon .

Yes , sir , but I found nothing except underwear,
dresses, and
this.

(Hands him prayer book)

A prayer book ? Is that all ?

Guerchard

Bon .

There's a photograph in it .

Guerchard

(Opening book and taking out photo)

Oh! A photograph of Victoire - almost worn out a date

-

has ten years ago Hello! She has her arm around the
neck ,

of a tall boy . Why ---

(Looks at the Duke)

it is --A

What is it?

Duke

-Anything wrong with me . Is there a smudge on my nose

nose ?

(Guerchard looks at the photo then throws one look at the Duke , who is leaning with his back against mantel .

Guerchard makes a sign to Boursin and Bonavert to go.

They do so R. 1 E.)

(Guerchard then turns RC. looks at the Duke , laughing,

The telephone bell rings on table G. up R. C.)

(The Duke starts to go to it) 11RING

Guerchard

(Stopping him)

One moment , please . I'll answer it.

(At telephone)

Yes , it's 1 , Guerchard, Shief Inspector , Secret Police

.

61

62

63

(To Duke)

It's the gardener at Charmerace .

Oh, indeed !

Duke

Gerchard

(At phone)

Hello , yes I want to know who went into the hot -
house yester

day . Yes , and got some pink salvia yesterday
afternoon-

Oh The puke de Charmerace --- You are sure no one
else ?

Perfectly sure ? Very well , yes , that's all . Thanks .

(He hangs up thephone and tunrs to the Duke)

You heard?

Yes .

Duke

(Off R. 3 E.)

Gournay Martin.

Jacques ! Where is Jacques ?

(off)

Jacques !

Germaine

Duke

Here I am !

(Enter Gournay - Martin R. 3 E. with his bag . He goes

to

the Duke and hands him his bag . Germaine follows
Gournay on and remains R. H. Near table A. where
Guer-

chard joins her , and talks with her)

(As he enters)

(To Duke)

Gournay

both

I am going to the Ritz . We are going to the Ritz .

What are you going to do?

Duke

Why are you obliged to go to the Ritz ?

Gournay

Danger ! Didn't you see Lupin's telegram " Shall be
there

to- night between a quarter to twelve and midnight , to
receive

the tiara . " Do you think I shall remain here when the
tiara

is in my bedroom .

Duke

But , it isn't there now we took it -

B

63

64

Duke .

Gournay

I know. We took it from there and I have it now in my bag .

I am taking it with me.

Isn't that rather risky ?

What do you mean ? Gournay

Duke

If Lupin has made up his mind to take the tiara - you are

running a great risk.

Gournay

Tare ! I never thought of that.

Ten (Sees Guerchard)

One moment . Do you think I can trust Guerchard?

Duke

I think so.

Guernay

(Taking his bag and putting it on chair L.C. (Q) opens it and takes out the jewel case, speaking meanwhile)

Well - I shall give him the tiara to take care of.

(Opening case and giving it to ;Duke to look at)

Isn't it a beauty ?

Duke

It's magnificent .

Monsier Guerchard.

Gournay

(Guerchard excuses himself to Germaine and comes to

Gournay C.)

Lupin wants to get this tiara - I am going to entrust it to

your care . You don't mind , do you?

Guerchard

On the contrary , I was going to look after it for you

Duke

(Xes , giving the case and tiara to Guerchard)

It's a beauty , isn't it?

(Taking it)

Guerchard

(Tournay alones:his bog)

Ah !

(Xes to R. and puts tiara on table R. C. then to

Germaine

who comes down R. of table)

De Gournay

(Who has closed the valise , calls Duke)

-

Jacques by the way.

(Duke goes to Gournay and they go up L. C. Near
fireplace

and talk together . The duke puts on his overcoat , hat
and gloves while talking with Gournay)

(Guerchard and Germaine down R. C. Below table .

He

do shows her the photograph of the duke)

guerchard

Mademoiselle , do you know this photograph of the
Duke ? It was

taken ten years ago ?

Ten years ago?

Germaine

Guerchard

Yes .

Well it isn't the Duke .

Germaine

It certainly looks like him.

Guerchard

Germaine

A little perhaps , but not as he was then. He has
changed
greatly .

Guerchard

Oh!

Germaine

His travels his illness - you know we thought him
dead .

guerchard

He had heart -trouble , didn't he ?

Germaine

It made father very anxious when he went away , but
now he is
all right .

Gournay

well I'm off now , Jacques .

(Coming down L. taking bag from chair L.C. and
Xing to door R. 1 E. followed by Duke)

(Germaine up .

behind chair R of table RC .)

65

Guerchard

(Swinging to C. L.)

Are you going too , Duke ?

Duke

(Stopping C.)

Yes , you don't need me?

I do.

guerchard

Duke

what do you want now ?

Guerchard

Are you afraid to face the redoubtable Arsene Lupin ?

Gournay in front

Stay with him , Jacques . They want to steal my tiara,
eh!

But two of you are not too many . Thanks . I wonder
when I

shall be able to sleep in my own house again .

(Presses Duke's hand and exits R. 1 E.)

Germaine

(Comes & Duke

oftable

RC)

(On threshold of door R , 18.)

Aren't you coming , Jacques ?

Duke

(R.C. Escorting her to door)

No , I've got to stay with Guerchard .

Germaine

(R.C.)

very well . Only remember, you haven't slept all
night , -

leaving Charmerace at eight o'clock to get here at six
in the

morning in that old motor .

querchard

(L C. In front of chair Q.1

(Starts)

What ?

Germaine

But I warn you , tired or not , you've got to take me to
the

Opera tomorrow to hear Faust . It's the fashionable
night.

(Exit R. 1E)

(The Duke has gone to the door with her, one, puts
coat gloves and hat on table A. , (R.H.)
(then moves to sofa u).

66

Purchard

a motor!

(To himself Ah! that's it.

motor trip last night .

Filom Sofa U

Didn't you ?

fil Duke

67

I didn't know you made a

Guerchard

I understand you left Charmerace at half past eight
and got

here at ten o'clock in the morning . Did you have a
good

motor ?

Duke

(g)

A Hundred Horse Power .

(sitting chair Q.

Querchard

L.C.)

Then you broke down ?

Yes , I lost three hours .

Duke

Querchard

Was there nobody to repair the motor ?

Duke

It was two in the morning .

Au Guerchard

And nobody knew of the break - down?

Duke

Why do you ask?

Guerchard

Oh, nothing , there were no witnesses ?

Duke

No , there were no witnesses . I repeat , it was two
o'clock

in the morning .

Too bad !

Guerchard

Duke

I had to repair the machine myself .

Querchard

course .

+

Of

68

Duke

(Purchard rises moves towards

Will you have a cigarette? I remember. You only
smoke

Americans .

Guerchard

I'll take one just the same .

(Takes a cigarette and looks at it - Duke gives him a
light .)

It's queer , very queer .

What's queer ?

Duke

Dum

Guerchard

First Your cigarettes ; then the flowers - that little
picture the man dressed like a chauffeur , and finally
your
midnight drive .

(Rises)

Duke

I find your tone offensive, Monsieur Querchard?

(Takes up his overcoat and hat from table A.)

Guerchard

(at c .)

Don't go , don't go .

Why not ?

Duke

Guerchard

I beg your pardon , I am mad ! mad !

Duke

That's what I ventured to think.

him)

Guerchard

You can help me -- that's what I want to say , help --

You

can stay here to help me with Lupin . You understand

-- you

will do it?

Jiara in case

Duke Dukat

(Replaces hat on table A and coat on table A)

Willingly . But , you are not entirely yourself -- you are worrying about something .

(Comes down near chair T.)

Querchard

(Comes to L. end of table R.)

Once more , excuse me!

Duke

All right , but what shall we do?

2 Guerchard

The tiara is there in that case .

(Opens the case on table R)

You see it is there.

(Closes the case)

Duke

Yes , very well .

Then we will wait .

Querchard

Duke

For whom ?

For Lupin .

Guerchard

Duke

Is it possible, you expect that, as in a fairy tale , the

clock

will strike 12, and Lupin will appear to claim the tiara.

That's just what I expect .

Guerchard

Duke

Its delicious.

It wont bore you ?

Querchard

on the contrary . What ?

Duke

Make the acquaintance of this invisible burglar , whom you've been hunting for ten years ? Why ? It will be a never-to-be - forgotten evening .

(Site chair " T" right end of table . Guerchard sits chair "S ")

I hear someone now .

Guerchard

No.

69

70

Duke

Yes , I do ... That was a knock . (Rourem appears
retands behind dome R3)

Guerchard

Your hearing is better than mine . In this whole
business ,
you have shown the true instinct of a detective .
(Rises and without taking his eyes off the Duke , go
es

up stage to door R. 3 E. The Duke rises and slowly
crosses to L. H.)

Guerchard

(Without taking his eyes from the Duke , goes to open
the door . Enter BOURSIN R. 3 E.)

Come in , Boursin .

(Boursin enters , closing the door R. 3 E.)

Your brought the handcuffs?

Boursin

(Gives him the handcuffs)

Yes .

(looks at the Duke)

Shall I stay?

(The Duke sits in arm chair N. up L.C.)

Are the men outside ?

Guerchard

Boursin

Yes . Will you want me here ?

Guerchard

No. What about the next house ?

Boursin

No communication possible . The place is carefully guarded .

Guerchard

If anyone tries to enter, no matter who , arrest him and

if necessary fire on him.

(Exit Boursin R. 3 B. Guerchard Xes and leans on back

of the arm - chair in which Duke is sitting)

Duke

We are shut up in a fortress .

1120

Guerchard

Those words are truer than you think . I have men behind every

door .

Really ?

trouble

Duke .

Guerchard

It seems to annoy you .

Duke

Dreadfully . Great Scott ! Under these circumstances,
Lupin can never get in.

Guerchard

Unless he falls from the sky -or ---

Duke

Or unless you are Arsene Lupin .

Or you .

Guerchard

Duke

(Rises, Xes in front of Guerchard to table A and takes
up his hat and coat)

You have planned everything so well that I am not
needed here .

Good night.

What ?

Guerchard

Duke I came to see Lupin. If he's not coming (perty
(To C)

Guerchard

No, no , you must stay .

Duke

Must?

, I'm off .

We'll see him yet .

Guerchard

Duke

(Puts coat and hat on table A and comes down R by
table R)

Bah!

He's here now .

Guerchard

Duke

Lupin ?

Guerchard

Luk

Yes , Lupin .

on hi

hat)

70

71

Where is he ?

Duke

Guerchard

(Sitting on front edge of table R)

In this house.

Disguised?

Duke

Yes .

Guerchard

Placing silkhaton table Duke

(Sitting beside Guerchard on front edge table)

As one of your men .

No!

Guerchard

Duke

If he's here , let's see him .

Will he date-- ?

Guerchard

Duke

What's that?

Guerchard

You said this was a fortress .

enter this room an hour ago, but now ---

Well !

Lupin may have decided to

Duke

Guerchard

Well, now it would take a lot of courage , you see .

He'd have

to risk everything , and throw down the mask . Lupin
don't

going to get himself caught in a trap. What do you
think ?

Duke

You must know him better than I, he's been a friend of
yours

for years. At least , you know him well by reputation.

Guerchard

Yes , and I know this methods . For ten years I've
studied his

tricks . He has a wonderful system he attacks his
adversary:

worries him and gets the better of him . It's a fine
plan

but his mysterious movements in this present case
puzzle me

71 72

73

more than anything else in his career .

I'll be hanged if I don't begin to be interested in the fellow .

Duke

Guerchard

But now I think I see things a little more clearly . I thought him more courageous yesterday than I think he is to-

day he has pluck , but it's only the courage of a thief.

Fancy that .

Duke

Guerchard

(Leaves the table and moves to C)

Yes . Such chaps have little backbone.

(Leaves table also)

Duke

Well, they can't have everything .

Guerchard

pretend to be

The ir ambushes - their attacks -- their excellent tactics .

Oh yes , they are àlever people .

Duke

Now you are praising them .

Querchard

Not I! This dupin has had too much praise already .

Duke

Nevertheless , he has done things that are rather
good in
their way .

Guerchard

Oh , indeed !

Duke

Give the devil his due . What about last night -- that
wasn't
so bad .

No. It wasn't bad .

Guerchard

the

That sale of motor was well managed .

Duke

Fairly .

Guerchard

Duke

And don't forget to give him credit for having

successfully

impersonated you . That was the best thing he's done.

1 Guerchard

He has done better than that. Why don't you mention his masterpiece ?

Duke

It depends what you call his master stroke . the
Guerchard

His impersonation of the Duke de Charmerace.

Duke that would

He found it as easy to pretend to be me, as to pretend to be

you .

Guerchard

Nevertheless , Duke , the best of the joke is yet to come .

He may want to take a hand in the wedding .

Oh, if he tried that !

Duke

(Xes above the table to up L C)

Many chains

Guerchard

It's a handsome fortune and a pretty girl .

Que

Perhaps he prefers another .

Duke

A thief like himself ?

It would be more to his taste.

(Sits chair)

Gun

Guerchard

Duke

Guerchard

It would be terrible - insane if on the eve of his marriage

he was foolish enough to unmask himself . Lupin passing for

Charmeracen would begin by taking the dowry .

Duke

He might prefer it to the girl

73 74

-

Guerchard

Would-

(Standing between table R and chair S astride of chair-)

But what a fall ! To be expected at the opera
tomorrow and

spend the night in jail to live a month as the Duke de
Charmerace, in great style, after mounting the steps
of the

Madeleine , and be dragged down his father - in- law's
front

steps the same evening , with handcuffs on his wrists.,
n't this be revenge enough for Guerchard to catch the
Beau

Brummel of thieves and clap him in prison this
gentleman

robber put him behind the bars ? Poor Lupin ! It
wouldn't

seem much to him, but how awful for a Duke -- Come ,
come

Now on your side , do you think that would be
amusing ?

(Sit on edge of table)

Duke

(Raises his head , but remains seated)

Have you finished ?

Guerchard

What would you think of the situation ?

Duke

I should think it musing .

So do I.

Guerchard

Duke

Oh no , it frightens you . You're scared .

(rises towards Duke) Guerchard

Ha, ha, ha

Duke

Yes. You are afraid

(Duke rises suddenly and throws his cigar in front of fireplace. Guerchard goes up stage above table R)

You've the soul of a policeman. And in putting you in your

place don't think I'm going to reveal some secrets . I am the

Duke of Charmerace .

Querchard

You lie you are an escaped convict . Ten years ago , you

were in jail . You are Arsene Lupin .

Duke

Prove it!

(Xs to R in front of table) (chard troves down L.C.)

I am the Duke de Charmerace . Arrest me if you like ,
you

can arrest Ipin , but if you tried to arrest the Duke of
Charmerace , an honest man , a member of the Jockey
Club , the

75

fiance of M'lle Gournay - Martin-

You're a gutter -snipe . Guerchard

Duke

Make toursef the laughing stock of Paris. Furnish a
single

proof.

I shall have a proof .

Guerchard

Duke

You may arrest me in a week or the day after
tomorrow or

tomorrow , but you won't arrest me this
orening .Tonight(Xes back to L C)

(Up to window c)

Guerchard

We'll see.

Duke

(Sitting astride chair 2)

The Magistrate was right when he said that the very
mention

of the word Lupin made you a crank .

Guerchard

Very likely , he was , but what about the tiara ?

Duke

Wait , policeman ; the tiara will be fetched at twelve
o'clock

(Rises)

Do you know what's behind that door?

(Guerchard startsnervously -)

Ha, you're a coward , you're afraid minute by minute
as

the hand of that clock gets nearer to twelve o'clock
you

are getting more and more afraid

(Suddenly -listens)

What was it?

Guerchard

Duke

You see the strain's too much for you. You know as well as I do that something surprising is going to happen at twelve o'clock .

men are outside , and I am armed .

Guer .

76

My

Duke

Simpleton! Just remember , remember... that it has always

been the case when you have prepared everything , when you

have made all your arrangements in the most careful manner

to catch Lupin that at the last moment , some accident has

thrown down all your hopes Remember, it has always been

just when you were about to triumph that he has beaten

you. He has only let you climb to the top of the ladder for the pleasure of tilting it over .

Guer.

You are Lupin, confess .

Duke

Why I thought you were certain of it.

Guer .

(Taking out handcuffs)

(Advances toward Duke)

Hold out your hands .

(Rises) Duke

Arrest me if you dare . I have listened to your babble long enough . If I am Arsene Lupin , arrest me.

(Holds out hands on handcuffs)

(X's to down R.C.)

Guer

In just three minutes , when I know that nobody has touched

the tiara .

Duke

In three minutes the tiara will have been stolen , and you

will not arrest me.

Guer .

I swear I will .

Duke

Two minutes more - (moves toward R. Corner table R.)-

(Draws his revolver Guer . moves back and draws his)

(at L.e.)

Come , none of that.

Guer.

(Points his revolver at the Duke)

3

77

Duke

Didn't you tell me to be ready to fire at Lupin ?

Well ?

Guer .

Duke

My revolver is ready because he is about to appear

We

have but one minute more .

We are in force .

Guer .

You're a coward .

Duke

Guer .

But I can handle the matter alone .

You're a fool .

Duke

One more and I fire.

Guer .

I am the Duke de Charme race You will be arrested
toorrow !

Duke

To hell with you.

Guer .

Duke

Fifty seconds more .

(Coolly--)

Guer .

Yes.

Duke

In forty seconds the tiara will have gone .

78

Guerchard

No.

Duke

Yes .

(The clock strikes twelve . They both walk , counting

their steps, towards the diadem looking at each other .

They arrive there at the same time . The Duke moves as

if to take the diadem but takes his hat instead , and up

stage and rings bell . Guerchar d pounds on the box and

opens it. He rushes to the tiara and seizes it)

I have it ... I have won ! I have not been beaten this time!

Has Lupin taken the tiara?
over Larme)

No.

Guerchard

Duke

(Down R. taking overcoat from table A and putting aton)

Yes .

(Theouring it

Guerchard

(C)

What ?

Duke

Weigh it.

(Paling- and putting it on)

Doesn't it seem a little light to you ?

Guerchard

What's that?

Duke

My dear good man , that tiara is an imitation.

(with sharptime to the LC.) Guerchard

Damnationt

(Takes the tiara out of operat

(Aside) Bonavert enter R.3 B.)

Duke

A This is the real one.

(Agentamenter Rib) (Duke shouts)

The tiara is stolen . The tiara is stolen .

(He disappears R. 1 E)

pocket , am . Boursin and

- CURTAIN -:

79

ARSENE LUPIN

ACTIVE

CAR 1

Calle

ARSENE LUPIN

ACT 4 STAGE LEVEL

EXTERIOR

CAR 2 ->>

windows

Chan

Table

Chair

Exterior BIDEBOARDWindow

Elevator

Platform

Tatener

Shaft

STEP

Bookcase

Double

Doors

Door

RoundTable

chair

Baseme of Theatre

STEP

Stop

Shelvin

One abri

InteriorCurio

Cabinet

Csofa

Chair

T Door

S

Side chair

17

feet

→

ACTIV

35

SCENE : -

DISCOVERED :

A handsome smoking room . Writing table on whuch is a telephone and a vase of flowers . Divans, desks , etc. Facing the audience is a door , wide open, showing an elevator. Right and left of door book shelves .

L. back in wing , door opening on a
hall L.1.E. windows looking on street .
door ; Door R. 2. E. Between
the two doors a fine placard mounted
higher. See Diagram .

(Clock strikes six)

VICTOIRE, CHAROLAIS and HIPPOLYTE.

(Speaks after 12- stroke)(At window up R.C. turning)

1st was that the bell ,

Charolais

Hippolyte

(In front of door L. C.)

No, it was the clock .

Victoire

(In front of chair V.)

Charolais

!

.

(ear window)

They're after him , and he's afraid to come in .

(Up C. to elevator)

Victoire

I have sent the elevator down in case he comes in by

the

secret door. (move up to elevator here)

Charolais

Well then , why the devil don't you shut the elevator door.

How do you expect it to come up if the door is left open?

(Hippolyte touches button- the door of elevator closes)

Victoire

I'm so nervous I don't know what I'm doing .to Justin .

(Comes down L.H.)

Suppose we telephone

Charolais

Justin knows less about it than we do .

Hippolyte

We should be safer upstairs.

Victoire

(

move

to

e

)

Go up then . I still have hope . I'm staying here .
He'll come.

Charolais

But if they should arrive to hunt among the papers -
he has

told us nothing - we are not prepared what are we
going to do?

Victoire

Am I "beefing ". Let them arrest me!

Hippolyte

Perhaps they have arrested him .

Victoire

Don't say that ! Don't even think it .

Are the two Policemen

(Pause)

still on the watch ?

(Crossing up towards window - Charolais stops her
with his arm)

Charolais

Don't go to the window . They know you .

(Looking out window. VICTOIRE returns to L. C.)

Yes they are still there before the cafe opposite -
hello!

What's up ?

Victoire

Two chaps running .

Charolais

Are they coming here ?

Victoire

Charolais

No.

2

Victoire

Ah!

Charolais

They are talking to the
running across the square
off Thunder ! Now they are

Victoire

This way! Are they coming this way ?

Charolais

Wait a minute .

(He looks out)

Yes , they are coming -
they are here !

nevesRC.) Victoire

And he is not here! If he'll only stay away
only

(Bell rings off L.C.)-

- if he'll

Charplans up R.onptes

(They all stand silent . The elevator door slides
back and LUPIN appears haggard , unrecognizable ,
his

he comes down C. VICTOIRE utters cry)-collar torn
Lupin! Are you wounded ?

No!

Lupin

(Bell rings again) (To Charolais)

Your coat -

go and open the door!

(Exit Charolais L. 2. E.)

Shut the bookcase .

Hide .

(To Victoire)

Do you want to ruin us?

(Exit R. 2. E. Hippolyte presses the button
elevator door closes -
the

then the bookcase slides into

place and hides the elevator . VICTORIE and

HIPPOLYTE

exeunt L. 2. E. The stage is empty . CHAROLAIS

ENTERS

L. 2. E. dressed as a servant - goes to door L. C. and
opens it. BONAVERT and DIEUSY are seen)

Monsieur de Duc ...

Charolais

(Bonavert and Dieusy enter pushing Charolais aside)

Shut your trap . (moves upe)

Dieusy

Bonavert

(To Dieusy

How did he give us the slip ? Now two minutes ago
we were

him.

Saw

Gun Dieusy

shan't get into his house , if I know it .s

He

Bonavert

But are you quite sure it was our man ?

I'd swear it on the book .

Dieusy

Charolais

-

But gentlemen I cannot leave you here . His Grace is not

yet out of bed .

Dieusy

Bed ? Your blessed Duke has been on the go since midnight.

And going some .

Lupin

(Who entered R. 2. R. a moment ago in dressing - gown and slippers)

What were you pleased to remark ?

The devil!

Dieusy & Bonavert

Lupin

Is it you who are making this racket ?

(Dieusy and Bonavert look at each other in amazement)

Ah ! I know you . You are Guerchard" s men .

Surest thing you know!

Dieusy

Lupin

What do you want ?

Bonavert

Er....nothing ...Perhaps we have made a mistake .

Lupin

I think so too. Good morning .

(He signs to Charolais who opens the door)

Dieusy

(They back up stage to door)

(To Bonavert, going out)

Guerchard will get "bounced " for this.

(Backing out)

Bonavert

He will indeed. A Duke is a Duke .

(They go out L.C. Lupim sinks on sofa C. R. C.

CHAROLAIS goes to close the door I. C. and
disappears

for a moment)

porncetillLupeni Site)5

Victoire .

(Entering from L. 2. E. , goes to Lupim R.C.)

Oh, my boy , my boy!

(Lupin does not answer . Taking his hand)

tired to death.You're worn out.

(To CHAROLAIS , who re-enters L. C. and comes down L.)

Get coffee ! He has had nothing since last night.

(Exit Charolais L. 2. E.) (To Lupin)

You will have coffee ?

Lupin

Yes .

Victoire

The life you lead is impossible. Won't you change it ?
are white as a sheet : why don't you speak ?

Lupin

Victoire , I've had a scare .

You

A scare? You ?

Victoire

Lupin

I don't want you to tell the others , but last night I
played
the fool . Knowing that Sonia and you were safe I
couldn't

resist the temptation to stay and "rag" poor old
Guerchard .

It was absolute madness . As the Duke I could have
got away
quickly . I lost my chance and had to make a dash for
it

with the tiara like a common thief . They came after
me like

a pack of hounds . For a time I kept the lead, then I
could

hear them gaining yard after yard . I ran with my
heart

thumping and my knees aching . They got nearer and
nearer .

They could almost touch me . I came to the Bridge
over the

and there was a moment . Yes, there was a moment -
when I

thought I'd jump in and end it all rather than be
caught at

Seine

last.

on babka C.)

Lupin ! Oh, Lupin !

Victoire

-

Lupin

Then I thought of Sonia and went on. They were as
fagged as

I was more and life didn't have for them what it may
have for me . An inspiration instinct common-sense -
turned me toward home . I got on my toes again and
ram

blindly , lost them at the corner of the street , lurched
into

the doorway , staggered in by the secret way and
here

Oh, Victoire, Victoire , dear old faithful friend ,
rotten game this is!

I am .

what

Charolais enters with breakfaston tray. He puts
it on the table L.C.)

Charolais

Your breakfast, chief .

(Rises)

Yes

Lupin

it's a rotten game. (pulls Tiara from his R pocket
of dressing gouse)(Takes out tiara)

CHAROLAIS to by vB. While Victoire pours out
the coffee, LUPIN examines the tiara)

But there's no denying it , this tiara is a lovely thing .
(place the tiara on the table L. and sit in chair)

(Charolais Exit L2E)Victoire

I have put two lumps and some cream .
dress you ?

Do you want me to

Lupin

Yes .

(He settles to breakfast .

R. 2. E.)

Victoire exits, Xing at back ,

The rolls are delicious I am famished. So are the eggs.
And coffee worthy of the Ritz . Whew ! I feel better .

Juve, inter here

Victoire

(Re-entering R. 2. E. with his boots and his waistcoat ,
which she puts on sofa C.)

I'm going to put them on for you .

(She kneels to put them on him. R. of him)

(Stretching)

Lupin

Victoire I feel ever so much better !

victoire

I know and you wanted to kill yourself but you are
young

and soon will overcome that . And this life of
falsehood ,

theft, uncleanness , all begins again.

Lupin

(Looking at the tiara)

Victoire ! I must have my part of the spoils .

Victoire

No, no, it will end badly . It's no good to be a thief.

Ah! when I think of what you made me do last night,
and the

night before! It's a nice thing for me to remain hours
and

hour an armchair! I'm not a thief, I'm not a thief !

(Rises)

(Taking his hand) Lupin

You're dead right , you're not a thief! You've only been
fond

of me , my poor Victoire!

Victoire

"Poor Victoire ". Yes , you may well say that.

6

Lupin

I do say it. And I even wonder why you cling to me .

Victoire

Perhaps it's because I'm silly , or because I love you
too

much perhaps both !1

(Takes slippers off R. 2. E. and returns)

• (Rises standsby shair) Lupin

And I love you , you dear old Vicky .

(Reeves dressing gown) Victoire .

Shebrings in Lupin Silk

hat puts it on table R.C.)

And then , do you see , some things can't be explained
. I

often talked with your poor mother about it. Here ise
your coat.

suspenders . (assisti hun &potentecont

Lupin

(ing)

Thanks .

(Above table) Putting everything on the tray)

Victoire

When you were 11 ttle you surprised us by your originality .

You had dainty ways of your own. You couldn't dig like your

father , who had horny hands and sold beets .

(In front of chair U.)

Poor Dad .

Lupin

Victoire

You were a bad boy at seven, tricky and you used to steal ,

too .

So I did sugar!

Lupin

Victoire

Yes, it began with sugar, then it was jam , then money . And

you remember the brooch you stole from me ?

Yes.

Lupin

I couldn't scold you .

marbles ". You loved to

Yes .

Victoire

And you told me , "I stole it to buy
play marbles .

Lupin

Victoire

Oh , it was a 11 very well then, a little thief is rather
"cute "

But at twenty -eight!

Lupin

You are sarcastic.

(Moving around & goha) Victoire

I know : you only rob the rich , you always loved
humble people .

Oh yes ; as to your heart you are good enough !

Well then?

Lupin

(Sits on edge of table T. his feet on ottoman S.)

You should have other notions in your head . Why do

you steal ?

Victoire

Lupin

You should try it, Victoire.

Victoire

(Coming down L. of Lupin)

I? Mother of Angels ,

Lupin

I have tried everything , medicine , law , acting , jui -
jitsu.

It's a beastly world! So I went in for society and
became a

duke . Wellness is better than this, not even that
of a duke . What surprises, Vicky , and what variety !

Terribly

exciting , and then how amusing !

Victoire

Amusing !

Lupin

These rich folk when one gets away with one of their
bank

notes , what a face they make . You saw daddy

Gournay - Martin

when his tapestries were touched , what agony ! And
the tiara
already prepared by Guerchard's folly ; the tiara I had
only
to pick up ! And the ineffable happiness of making
Guerchard
mad! And finally , look!

(He shows the apartment -rises and points about the
room C.)

"Duke of Charnerace" This business leads to
everything if one
sticks to it. If one can't be a great artist or a great
soldier ,
the next best thing is to be a great thief.

(X es to table D. R. 1. - takes cigarette and remains
behind sofa C.)

(atl.c.) Victoire

1 no2

Hush ! don't talk like that . You should have some
noble idea

that would make you forget these thefts . Some love -
that would change you . It would make another man
of you .

Love marriage and a child.

matchfor

(Lights , cigarette Lupin burning
looks at match before throwing it
away .

Love , marriage and a child . Yes.

(Throws away match) puts unlighted cigarette back
onthetaker)

Victoire

(Eagerly)

You... you have thought of that?

Yes.

Lupin

Victoire

Yes , but no nonsense , a true woman , one for life .

Yes .

Lupin

Victoire

You are serious , my little one, you are really in love.

Yes, honestly .

Lupin

Victoire

Ah, and what is she like?

Lupin

She is pretty , Victoire .

(Sits on sofa C.)

Victoire

Oh , trust you for that. Is she brunette or blonde ?Is
she brunette or blonde ? Near Lan

Brunette charming Lupin

Bonde and saude , with delicate complexion and the
manner

of a little princess.

Victoire

Ah, my dearie , and what is her business ?

She is a thief !

Mother of God !

Lupin

Victoire

Charolais

(Enters L. 2. E. and goes to table T.)

Can I take away the coffee ?

(Telephone rings)

10

10

Sh!

Lupin

(Xes to C. and into chair U. sits)

(To Charolais, who has breakfast tray in hands)

Jee answer it Hello! what You !

(To Charolais) (Low)

Mademoiselle Gournay -Martin .

(L. and R.)

Lephone

* Chor.

G

Lupin

Charolais & Victoire

That ? more clep toward Lessin

(At phone)

Good morning

(At phone)

Lupin

Yes thanks . I slept like a log . You want to speak to
me

at once . You will wait for me at the Ritz ?

Don't go .

Ssh !

Victoire

Afurther move towerk Busina

(At phone)

In ten minutes ?

Lupin

It's a trap !

Charolais

(At phone)

Lupin

Great Scott ! It's a serious then well , I'll take a carriage

and come - au revoir .

(Hangs up receiver)

Victoire

And suppose she knows everything and wants revenge - suppose

she is getting you there to have you arrested?

(Lupin shrugs his shoulders)

Charolais

Sure as death . The magistrate will be there with Gournay-

Martin they will all be there.

You are crazy!

(Rises)

Lupin

If they wanted to arrest me, if they had proofs which they

haven't got yet , Guerchard would be here already .

(VICTOIRE exits R. 2. E.)

with due

Charolais

But why did they follow you all night if they knew nothing ?

11

Lupin .

Who followed me all night? Guerchard's men What did that

signify ?

Charolais

Signify ? If they followed you they had areason .

Lupin .

Good God , you are a fool .

(Showing the riara) onthetable beside him)

Isn't this tiara a reason ?

Charolais

They suspected, then ?

Lupin Ilia ofTabebut

S+drops

After the first excitement Guerchard guessed the truth -

then it was no longer I who was followed , it was the tiara . tiara

And the proofs ? Where are they . There are none , or rather , edhe tow

I have them here.

(Opens the desk 0 and takes out papers from drawer)

I have them here .

The Takes the papers)

There are! then, the certificate of the Duke's death , the list

of our friends , of our houses , our correspondents in the prov

inces and abroad .

(To Charolias)

My travelling bag . In appeardown

(Charolais brings it from chair G. R.)

o run .I'll put them in there the '11 be safer there , if I have to ru

Then, if ever I am caught , Guerchard can't accuse me of having

killed the Duke . I haven't assassinated any one yet .

Victoire

(Re-enters R : 2. and overhears)

(Sighing)

He has a good heart .

Shifts the

Charolais

(Coming down)

Lupin valine back

Chair S

Half past seven. I have just time . I'm off .

\(takes his hat from table Re.)

Victoire

Without even a disguise. Without even looking to see
if you're

watched . Let me at least see if anyone is there.

Lupin

No. I shall be late . The Gournay -Martin girl might
make it

warm for me. (puts on hat)

(Xes to door L.2 E.)

Morning & R.C. 2212

Charolais

Listen , Arsene .

(L H.)

Lupin .

I never keep women waiting .

(He goes out. L.2.e.)

(at C)

He is a true Knight ! A few centuries ago he would
have been

a crusader , now he is a thief .

victoire

Charolais.

He is an idiot . He is capable of telling the girl
everything

Just for bravado . We have only time to pack up -
come !

(Bell off stage) V₁

Voctoire no Dr

a light knock outside and

Things will end badly . I feel it in my bones .

(They go out L.2.E. The stage is left empty)

(After a minute the hall door is opened , a head
appears , and

someone enters It is BOURSIN disguised as a

chasseur from Ritz . He glances round then returns -
to

doon and disappears Pause. Another knock heard.

Charolais enters L.2 . E. and opens door L. C.

This scene is played with Boursin in the hallway)

(Inside door L.C.)

Charolais

(Boursin knocks milers des

Charolais here appearing, closes

door Softly tucks loudly)

Why didn't you come to the servants entrance?

(Outside door L.C.)

Boursin

I didn't know .

Give me the letter .

Charolais

Boursin

I was told to give it to no one but the Duke .

Charolais

when you must wait till he comes back . The Duke has
just gone to

The Ritz . Wait in the ante-room)

(He shuts door L. C., crosses stage, and exits L.2. E.

Boursin cautiously peeps in, looks round , opens door
L.C.

makes a sign to Dieusy , then re-enters)

Boursin

Psst !

(Moves down R. C.)

back of table T)

(Enter Dieusy L. C., comes down between heir and
door B

Little Gournay - Martin's telephone message did its
work , eh?

He has gone to the Ritz.

Dieusy

Boursin

In his motor . He will be back in five monutes . Stop
there

I'm going to cut the telephone wire .

(Cuts it ; and goes towards the travelling bag on chair
"G " R. H.)

Dieusy

The bag ! There must be something worth having in
that!

Perhaps , there is .

Boursin

(Noise heard at door L.2 . E.)

Too late . Do what we arranged.

(Dieusy exits L. C. Enter carolais L.2 . E.A shot
up L. G. is fired . Charolais , with exclamation ,
springs

towards do or L. G. and goes out. Boursin hurries to
the

valise R. takes out packet of papers , slips it under
coat and Xes to L. H. Re -enter Charolais, L. C.)

Charolais

Nobody . Oh , you .

(To Boursin)

Give me your letter . You are in the way .

(Takes letter . Boursin is bbout to go He comes
face to face with Lupin , who enters L. 2. E. Lupin
carries a samll cardborad box , under his arm
darkques (containingthe " boub "-)Lupin

Hello ! What's this?

(Puts the box on writing table " T " L. C.L

Ah ! From the Ritz ?,

(Sown L)

I brought that letter .

A message to put me off .

moves to C)

Boursin

It's from M. Gournay- Martin .

Lupin

Good .

(Boursin starts to exit L. C. Lupin stands between door

and Boursin)

One moment ! Are you in a hurry ?

13

14

Boursin

Yes , I was told to return immediately .

Lupin

(Who has unsealed letter)

No , there is an answer .

(Boursin about to go L.C.)

Wait !

(Lupin Xes down puts hat on table T stands in front of chair U Boursin remain above table L. C.

To Charolais)

It is from Germaine. "Monsieur Gerchard has told me

about

Sonia . A man who loves a thief can only be a rogue" -

She

is tactless "I have two bits of news for you -The Duke
of

Charmerace's death , which took place three years
ago ; and

my proposed marriage with his cousin and sale heir ,
M.ae

Relsieres , who will keep up the name and arms .

Written fro

Mlle . Gournay Martin by her chambermaid Irma ."

Hum !

(To Boursin who has moved to the door L. C. Step by
step)

Sit down , my good man .

Write

(Boursin returns and sits on sofa C. R. C.)

(To Charolais, who Xes behind table and stis on seat
"R" L/ of table)

(Dictates - Lupin has his back to Charolais so that he
can watch Boursin) (Strolls Slowly & R , as
hedictates, res open

"Mademoiselle , my constitution is robust , and my discomfort will be of short duration. I shall have the honor to send the future Mme . de Relzières my humble wedding present this afternoon. Written for Jacques de Bartut , Marquis deRelzieresPrincedeVirieux,DucdeCharmerace,byhisvalet, Arsene Lupin ."

bag.

,

Colors of form tay behi
(L. of table "T")
Charolais
Must I write Arsene ?
Lupin
Why not ? Blot it and give it to me .

(Rises and to C.)

(To Boursin)

Here , my man .

+ removesfaler venetrated four Bonaiu)

(Gives the letter with one hand to Boursin who takes

it:

then Boursin rises, takes letter and as he passes

Lupin

to go up C. Lupin seizes him by the neck , and kicks him

in the leg . Roupain falls his head to R. Lupin holds him on the floor and gives Charolais sign to search him.

Coldly to Charolais)

Our papers are under his coat .

(To Boursin)

Don't move or I'll break your arm . We call it juijitsu .
I?

15

(Charolais takes the papers .

to door L. C.)

Boursin gets up ; and moves

Mademoiselle

Monsieur Boursin , take that letter to Mieur, Gournay
- Martin .

and (Changing his tone)

And tell your master that I would rather be shot at by him than

by you.

&

howard

himme

appealing.

Boursin

Lupin Charolais Thanks for the information .

(Exit Boursin L. C. then Lupin turn to Charolais)

You idiot ! Couldn't you use your eyes? No matter .

(Moving down L.C.

There's no time to lose . Guerchard will be here with
a warrant

in ten minutes . Save your skin.

Guerchard will be here in ten minutes .

Charolais

How ? Every street is guarded . They're in front of
the house and at the side.

Lupin .

Is the back door guarded ?

No.

Charolais

(Goes up to window No. 3. Victoire enters L. C. and
comes to above table "T")

Lupin

Well , go that way. Go to the house at Passy . I'll follow
.

Victoire

Are you coming too ?

(Charolais crosses behind Lupin and exits L. C.)

Lupin

Yes - in a moment . They're not discovered the secret
way .

(Sits in chair U. of Table "T ")

f

, a

16

Victoire

Don't use the telephone . It's dangerous.

(At telephone) Lupin

I must . I am waiting for gonia .

come and be caught by Guerchard. I'm not going to
let her

They don't answer -

Victoire

You had better send to her, and get away while there
is time .

Lupin

I can't send to her ! And what's the matter with this telephone !

Hello ! It's strange what !

(He examines receiver transmitter , and wire ; then with a furious cry)

The dogs!

Victoire

What ?

Lupin

(Rises)

The ' We cut the wire ! Damnation !

Victoire

(Coming down R. of lupin)

Well then now .

Lupin

What now ?

You will go!

Victoire

Lupin

What are you talking about?

Victoire

You have nothing to keep you here as she can't

telephone .

17

Lupin

(Taking her by the L. arm , with his right hand)

Don't you understand that she is on her way here now? You hear me

She is coming here .

But you !

Victoire

Lupin

I'm thinking of her.

Voctoire

How will it help if you are both done for?

Lupin

I prefer it that way .

But they will catch you !

Victoine

Lupin

(Looking at a box on table " T")

Not alive , I assure you .

Victoire

Stop ! Stop! I know y u are capable of anything and they are,

too; but you must go they won't do anything do her ,
she'll '

get off easy . You will go , won't you ?

Lupin

No , Victoine!

(Xing down L. of table)

Victoire

My dearie ! Listen listen, I am your old Victoine . We
have

never been parted , so for my sake, go!

Vicky, I can't.

Lupin

Victoire

Sitting down chair U.R. of table)

Then be it as God wills .

Lupin

But you mustn't stay!

Victoire

I won't budge ! I love you as much as she does .

(Bell off L.C.)

(They look at each other)

Sonia !

No, she will ring twice.

Lupin

Victoire

Who then?

Lupin

Then yes it's Guerchard!

Victoire

Don't let us move .

Lupin

(After a silence)

Listen , let him in .

You mean it?

Victoire

Lupin

Yes , yes , wait till he gets in , go round , then out by the

servants staircase. Watch for her near the house . Oh, you

will recognize her . She is so pretty . And then , old

Vicky ,

for God's sake , don't let her come here .

Victoire

Yes , but if Guerchard stops me ?

Lupin

When he enters hide behind the door . Besides , he
cares nothing
about you .

Victoire

But if he arrests me?

(Lupin doesn't answer)

(A second ring is heard off L.C.)

If he arrests me ?

Lupin

(In a low voice)

Go all the same, Victoire .

dearie Voctoire

I am going , my little one , I am going .

(Goes out L. C. door (she leaves door open)

Tapin

(Lupin takes box from table and puts it on one of the
shel-

ves of bookcase Q. then moves down & a lize)

leftsich

18

(Enter Guerchard L.C. door and down L.C.)

Guerchard

Good morning , Lupin.,

Good morning , Grandma .

Lupin

4 \$ Guerchard

You were expecting me. I haven't been long , have I,
Lupin

No, the time has passed quite pleasantly .

Gueechard

You've got a nice place here.

Lupin

Yes , it's central enough . I cannot receive you as I
should like

to do. My servants are all on holiday .

Gyerchard

Don't worry about that . I shall catch them again and
after all

Victoire is here.

Lupin

(Agitated)

Has she been arrested ?

Naturally.

Guerchard

Lupin

Ah!

(Moves chair U. forward to
and brings it in.

(A pause) RO

Don't trouble to take off your hat .

Have you had the warrant signed ?

LC . then gets chair E.

They sit simultaneously)

Where do you come from ?

Yes. Thank you .

Guerchard

Lupin

Have you brought it with you ?

Yes , thanks .

Guerchard

Lupin

Guerchard

For the arrest of Lupin2 -Alias Charmerace?

Lupin alias Charmerace . Quiseso .

19

9020

Lupin

Then why don't you arrest me?

Guerchard

For one simple reason . It gives me such pleasure to
arrest you

that I want to prolong the joy , Lupin .

Lupin at last.

Lupin

(They are sitting -looking at each other)

I hardly dare believe it.

Guerchard

Almost too good to be true.

Lupin

Guer.

Yes I hardly dare believe it. You , alive and at my
mercy.

Well , we'll see about that .

Lupin

Guerchard

Yes... much more at my mercy than you think. Do you
know where

Sonia Krichnoff is at this moment ?

Eh?

Lupin

Guerchard

I ask if you know where Sonia Krichnoff is?

Do you ?

Lupin

Yes I know .

Guerchard

Where then ?

Lupin

Guerchard

a little hotel near the " Etoile ."In

In a little hotel near the "Etoile "!

Lupin

Guerchard

Which is on the telephone.

What's the number ?

Lupin

Guerchard

555.14 Would you like to ring her up?

Well , what if I do?

Lupin

(Rises, as does Guerchard at same instant -- he puts
his

hand in his pistol pocket)

Oh, it may pass the time.

Guerchard

Lupin

After all , what do you want with the girl.... she
doesn't int-

erest you, does she ? I am the one you are looking
for... I am

the one you hate . I've played you tricks enough to
make you

hate me eh old boy ? So you will let the little girl
alone ,

won't you ? ..You won't take revenge on her...

although you are

a policeman , although you detest me, there are
certain things

you can't do..you cannot do that Monsieur

Guerchard..you will

not do that... Do whatever you like withme , but you
mustn't harm

her , poor little girl , eh? You won't harm her ?

Querchard

That depends on you, my friend Lupin .

Lupin

How does it depend on me ? (draws his chair back
& R. atore sofa)

Guero hard

I'm going to make a bargain with you.

It won

Lupin

With me?

Guerchard

Yes , a bargain .

21

21

22

What do you want ? Lupin

I offer you-- Guerchard

What ?

Lupin

Nothing .

Guerchard

Nothing ?

Lupin

Nothing .

Guerchard

Lupin

Then you're sincere . Apart from that .

ificate of death

I offer you freedom .

Guerchard

For whom ? For Victoire ?

Lupin

Guerchard

Only one person interests you . Sonia Krichnoff!

This is some game .

Lupin

Certainly --it's a game .

Guerchard

Lupin

All right ! Just now you are the stronger. It won't last .

You offer me the girl's freedom .

Gue rchard

Yes .

Her complete freedom ? Your word of honor ?

Lupin

Querchard : Yes.

2

22

22

Guerchard

23

Yes.

How will you do it?

Lupin

Guerchard

I'll put her thefts on you.

Lupin

My back is broad enough . What do you want in exchange ?

Querchard

Everything . You will return the pictures, the tapestries, the Louis XIV suite , the tiara and the certificate of death of the Duke .

Lupin

Would you like my skin too? In a word you want me , body and bones .

Skin and carcass .

Guerchard

They're not worth much

Lupin

Guerchard

Now. What will you give me ?

Lupin

(Xing to table L.C. Pouring out some port)

I'll give you a glass of port . That's all I can do for you .

So be it!

Guerchard

(Bell rings L.C.)

(Guerchard goes toward the door R. of it L.C.)

Lupin

(Rushing to door L of it)

Wait !

Guerchard

(To Boursin who enters L.C.)

do it wille Kritahnoff?

23

24

You accepte

Daureh

I accept the bargain . Lupin

Boursin

(To Guerchard)

It's a tradesman.

Lupin

I refuse .

(Boursin exits L.C.)

Guerchard

The girl , shall be sent to jail .

(Xes to R.)

Lupin

For how long ? *L.

Guerchard

You know the code . Minimum five years !

Lupin

You lie , you can't do it.

Benis. You wi12 not arrest

you must prove . Have

of the Pendant

ten years escaping

ed in order to oure

refuse .

Gu erchard

--article 386 .

Lupin

nge

If I return everything I shall get them all back- one of

these days .

Guerchard

When you came out of prison ...

Lupin

I have first to go there .

Guerchard

Oh , but pardon me. If you accept , I can still arrest you--

Lupin

Evidently . You'll arrest me if you can .

24

You accept ?

Guerchard

Well--

Lupin

Well--

Guerchard

Lupin

Well-- no.

Ahl

Guerchard

you proofs ?

Lupin

No. You want me-- and you don't want Sonia . You will not arrest

her , for it is not enough to arrest , you must prove .

Have

Yes, I know-- the Affair of the Pendant .

Well , prove it. No , Guerchard, after ten years escaping

from your claws to let my self be trapped in order to save

this girl who is not even in danger- no , I refuse .

Very well

Guerchard

(Bell heard off 1.C.)

Again ! Your bell is popular this morning .

(To Boursin who enters)

L.

What is it now ?

Boursin

It is Mlle. Krichnoff.

Guerchard

Arrest her . Here is the warrant . Arrest her .

Lupin

(Leaping at Boursin's throat)

(moves up 2. oftobe)L.

No never not that. Don't touch her , for God's sake.

Then you accept ?

Gu erchard

25 25

(To Boursin)

Keep Mlle . Kirchnoff . Send Dieusy to me.

Good

(Boursin exits L.C. Lupin down R.C. and across to
in front of chair U.R. of table T.)

And

Guerchard

(Comes down in front of chair R and puts one foot on
tabouret " 8 ")

Charmerace's death certificate .

Lupin

Bar (Taking a paper from his pocket)

Here it is.

(Guerchard quickly unfold the paper)

Guerchard

At last ? And the pictures ? The tapestries?

Lupin

(Taking out a folded paper)

Here is a receipt for them .

Well .

Guerchard

Lupin

I sent everything to the Safe Deposit Vaunts .

Guerchard

(Glancing over the paper which Lupin gave him) .

The tiara is not there ?

Lupin

Your foot is on it .

What ?

Guerchard

(He stoops , open the box -stool (tabouret) and takes out the tiara)

Do you want the case ?

Lupin

(Guerc hard examines the tiara mistrustfully)

Why do you make that face ?

26

26

Guerchard

(Reassured)

Yes, this is it.

Lupin

Good . And now if you've finished bleeding me...

Your weapons .

Guerchard

Lupin

Here they are. (produces revolver , laying it on the table
I)

Guerchard

Is that all ? What have you there ?

(with R. hand in housecoat

Lupin
A penknife .

Guerchard

Is it a big one ?

Lupin

Tolerably large .

Guerchard

Let me see . Large Glasp- knife(Lupin produces a
cutlass

Queen of Sheba Anything else?

(Diensy enters stands in

Lupin

doveway LC)

A tooth pick . That's the lot. And now let the girl go.

stande in the doorway in.)

Guerchard

One other small formality, please . (Pulls out
handcuffs from his
overcoat pocket)

What ?

Lupin

Guerchard

Your hands . Do you want the girl's freedom or not?

2727

27

201 demoiselle Lupin

(Hesitating to give his hands to Guerchard who holds
the handcuffs)

To be so much in love , and to be trusted so little ?

Guerchard

Come! Come , your hands .

Lupin

Arsene Lupin trapped by you .

Lucky!

Lucky dog!

(He holds out his hands and Guerchard puts on the
handcuffs

in front of table T.)

(Looking at his hands , then at Guerchard)

Well , have I paid dearly for Sonia's liberty ?

Yes , Boursin .

(Enter Boursin L.C.)

Guerchard

Mlle . Kirchoff is free. Tell her so and let her go.

(To Lupin)

Do you want to see her again?

Lupin

With these on my hands . Never!

(In front of Bofa R.C. Guerchard exits L.C.)

And yet ...

(Boursin stops)

yet I would be glad ; because if she leaves me now- I
do not know when- when- yes, yes- I want to see
her ...

(Boursin starts to go out L.C.)

No, wait , no, yes , I would rather that she should
remember

me otherwise- well ! No, let her go... let her go...let
her....

(As Boursin starts to go out enter Sonia followed by

Guerchard L.C.)

You don't want to see me ?

Sonia

Lupin

(R.C.)(standing in front ofthesofa)

(L.C.)

Guerchard

28

I?

28

You are free Mademoiselle . You can thank the Duke ,
tom

you owe it tohim.

(C.)

To him !

Sonia

Yes .

Guerchard

(Guerchard and Boursin exit L.C. and talk together a
moment in the ante -room)

Sonia .

(Down to Lupin)

prisen

And you send me away To you ! and throw me my
liberty , as a
charity . You don't even care to 2002 me ? I would
have
preferred-going trail Ah! If you understood with what
new feelings I came here . A that reminded me of my
past with
here horrible time .

y
terribly and the more presence of a thier new
disgusts Dickens
(Querchard, Boursin & Duney exit L.C.) Lupán
Hush !

asked

Sonia

But , coming here , I thought no more of the past . I
said to

myself "He consents to see me- perhaps he still loves
me a

little ." mistook pity for love . It was nothing but
It was not a corn

Lupin

Sonia- I implore you--

Sonia

Yes , you're right. Can one forget what one has been ?

I will

spend years in remorse and repentance, But to you I
shall alive from lies should always be a thief . L.

(Guerchard re -enters , comes down and sits on
edge of
table T.)

shmed I

Sonia--

Lupin

e . I don't seek to excuse myself .

Sonia

29 29

30

30

that love .

But love , sincere love , has something pure and true ,
and when I

loved you I gave you the heart of a young girl and in
-spite

of all the heart of an honest girl of a poor
lonely girl ,

without a friend in the world

geval

Lupin

You cannot know how you are torturing me.

I shall not see you Sonia again. My wound is made up.

I back to Russia and try to find employment

shop come back . We shall never see each other again

. Will

Sord before you give me your hand?

(Pause)

You will not? Want you take my hand?

I cannot .

Lupin

What ?

Sonia

Lupin

(R. sinks on sofa R.C.)

I cannot go

Sonia

Very well. I see .

I

(She goes to door)

Lupin

(In low voice)

Sonial

(Sonia stops) Henght

Yes. I swear it.

Qroller

You say the mere presence of a thief wat dieguet you.

Do you

mean that ?

Sonia

Lupin

Suppose I'm not the man you think I am?

What do you mean?

Sonia

Lupin

Suppose I'm not the Duke of Charmerace?

Sonia

31

Not the Duke of Charmerace ?

Ah, Gue Lupin

Suppose I'm not even an honest man ?

Sonia

You ! Not an honest man ?

Lupin

Suppose ... I am a thief , suppose I am

014

Guerchard

(Coming down)

Arsene Lupin .

Sonia

(Gasping)

Arsene Lupin ! (ashe extendshis arms)

(She sees han douffs and utters a cry)

Laufen Yes

It's true ! And you've given yourself up for me . It's for
mel

That you are going to prison . Oh my God .

(Flings herself into his arms)

And that's what women

Guerchard

call repentance.

Sonia

Lupin.Mr.

Ah God , my God ! How happy I am!

(Sits on sofa beside Lupin)

Ah my dearest , my dear little one. You love me.

Lupin

Guerchard

Let's be done with all this.

Lupin

In spite of all and knowing all, you love me enough to
love

me still . I don't know if I am touched with the
kindness if I

feel remorse , if this is what is called repentance, but
I

31

32

32

must be better , I must have become honest-- ah I am
too happy .

Guerchard

Come , enough .

Lupin

(Rising with Sonia)

Ah , Guerchard, I owe you the happiest moment of my
life .

Aprison

But you are going? He is going to take you away ? We
may

to be parted. Ju each oother
ezein.Lupin

4 don't care now.

-Sonia

do.

never

Gord by! BebraveLupin no

Go , and have no fear . I shan't go to prison will Ever
all me

No ? But what ? How?

□

Sonia

Lupin

Go, go! It isn't goodly e. Lupin pieleit

(Sonia goes toward the door L.C. drops handker-chief
and exits)

(Lupin returns and throws himself on the sofa. Bours
in

enters as Sonia exits L.C.)

Guerchard

Come , get up. The "Black Mania" awaits "Your
Grace". your placeis in the prison van .

You have unfortunate expressions . Can't youfind a
less unfortimateword for

Lupin

Guerchard

No more nonsense my boy . Play the game wont- take
a police sandy motoneis below. Come with me
quietly , it's
bet form. Jupposeyou are ashamed of being seen
withme?

Lupin

agrossing. Oh , lood,no! I don't mind.

33

(Boursin and Guershard exchange signs . Half- rising
from
the diran)

I only aske derations
paea)

Guerchard

Very well , then you will come ? Come on them .

Lupin

ولية

(Reseating himself) as a matter offact, Icapet come
yet,

I am breakfasting at the British Embassy
asy fordesks

Guerchard

lunch.

young man. The roles are changed now. This time
I've got the laugh on you . I'm up to your dodgge
know

has no more of that ! Im on top!

You can't dodge me upin

(Jumping up and throwing the handcuffs at his feet)

Do you ? Caut I:

(Guerehard calling Boursin and Dieusy makes
movement up

ppose you knew I was going to do that, didn't you ? I
tell you will be only too pleased some day to invite me
to lunch .

Guerchard

Come enough of this-- my men ...

Lupin

Now, Guerchard , listen to me ; I am not shamming
now... just

now , if Sonia had shown by a look or a movement
that she de-

apised me as you expected she would- I would have
given in, for

rather than fall into your clutches and let you triumph

I

should have blown my brains out. Now I have to choose between happiness with Sonia or prison . Well , I have made my choice .

shall live happily with Sonia or die with you , dear Guerchard .

Call in your men .

I

Guerchard

Enter !

(Makes a sign to Boursin- the DETECTIVES enter L.C.

and come down L.H. between table T and door L. 2. E.

Lupin up to bookcase quickly and takes Bomb from box)

34

*G Robe

O Danden

Lupin

34

The fun is about to begin !

Lupin pushes button beside elevator doors) 2.git)

Tie him ...

Guerchard

(The elevator door slides open , showing upper room of elevator)

Lupin

Back ! Hands up . You know this trick don't you ? Ah, ah!

come and tie me...

(To Guerchard)

Put up your hands !

Guerchard

Cowards ! Do you think he is going to

Lupin

Let them try, that's all!

They shall !

Guerchard

Boursin

(Going to him)

Governor ! You must be mad ! Look at his eyes ...He is des-

perate !

Lupin

(Comes down with a bomb in his hand)

ByGod ! What cowards you all are ! Chicken hearted
lick - spittles !

(Movement from Guerchard)

Hands up !

raise them and step back .)

(All

It is a pity there is no photographer here ... and now ,
you

thief , give me back my papers .

Never!

Guerchard

Governor take care .

Bours in

Lupin

(Going up to Guerchard and his men)

Do you want them to be blown up? Look at the poor
chaps

Do you think I don't mean it?

Dieusy

You must give in, Governor .

(They try to pull Guerchard out of the room to L.
2.B.)

Not I.

To

Guerchard

Boursin

Come Governor, come . Give the papers to me .

Give them up!

All

Lupin

te

Put them on the table.

(Boursin takes paper out of Guerchard's pocket) and
puts them on table T. then goes up stage with the men
.

Lupin takes the papers , always holding up the bomb-
he then

goes up towards the elevator, which has been open
since

the moment Lupin took the bomb)

(To Guerchard)

Boursin

He is going to make a dash for it.

Guerchard

The secret passage is guarded .

Lupin

A last word...

(He is at the door of the lift--Guerchard makes a step forward- all imitate him)

Beware of the bomb !

(He lifts it up and if to throw it- movement of panic-
Lupin Hastens into the elevator and the door shuts)
to lower compartment in the

(The elevator descends- Lupin changes , elevator and gets

into the one below. When his change is made the first
elevator goes up- the door opens- Guerchard and
Boursin

enter it- and it goes on up)

Showing The top room again)

Guerchard

(Springing to the door)

35

The door ! Get it open !

(Boursin and Guerchard try to open the door- to- the
Policeman)

To the secret passage- quickly

(Policeman run out door L. 2. E.)

The door quick every moment is of value ...

He'll have

to fight his way through my men in the street !

and then chill wither beloof or takin

(At this moment the door , Guerchard and

Boursin jump into the lift and Guerchard presses a
button . The lift does not move)

Bours in

Where is the button ?

Guerchard

It must be in the door ... It is open.... there is no way...

Boursin

Yes !.... Look!

(Presses another button and the lift goes up)

Ah!

36

Guerchard

) .

You blooming idiot' the other button ...the one to
go

down ! Quick! We are going up .

Curse you! The s top button !

(The lift goes slowly up .

Damn it are going up !

The stop button ! Damn ! Damn !

Guerchard's cries are

heard . The second elevator appears . It is an elegant little parlor . LUPIN is seen making up his face like Guerchard. The moment it comes level with the stage ,it stops .

Suddenly

Enter

(after finishing his make-up)Lupin

Caught! To think of the artfulness of my dear friend !

But

whatever you do , I've got the best of it !.... Great Scott!

What did I do with my bomb ?

(He fumbles in his pocket , takes it out and raising it in his hand , says)

Well done , little clown !

(Bounces it on the ground , then picks it up and puts it back in his pocket)

Now I have a good five minutes before me....

(Goes to door L C and looks th

A detective and Victoire!...Poor old Victoire!

(He pushes back the bolt -goes R and then locks both doors R3 and L2 E)

More detectives ! They swarm like tadpoles .

(Makes a motion to throw the bomb at them -

whenSONIA

enters L C)

gonia

Monsieur Guerchard?

(Running in quickly)

No, it's I.

Lupin

Sonia

You !

See how I've got out of it. Not bad, eh? ...You didn (t know me - what ?

Lupin

Sonia

No.

37

Lupin

This time the Duke of Charmerace is dead .

Sonia

No dear , it is Lupin who is dead !

Lupin?....

Lupin

Sonia

Please God , Lupin is dead .

(In a tone of regret)

Lupin

It will be a loss , you know! A great loss to the country

.

It will be long before France gets over it.

Sonia

But it will be a good thing for you .

Lupin

I will die to prove how much I love you !

Sonia

You will never steal again , willyou ?

Lupin

Of course noty with you by my adde

(Guede the 4)

want nothing else

e soul , and yet thtests soul too ; for d want

Lastest your teases and your hearts sonte , you don't

waume to go on stealing you must re

Sonia

Prendasmaven tostaalne ..

(They embrace) noise heard in upper compartment
of elevator

Sonia start, in alarm)

Lupin

(springing towards the lift c)

It's nothing ! It's only Querchard's stamping

Sonia

What do you mean?

38

Lupin

It's immense . He's bottled in the lift ! Ah, what a
happy

man I am no...I will never steal again ...i..... Look !

What's this ?

(Taking something out of his pocket)

Guerchard's watch I must have taken it by mistake .

Force

of habit Force of habit !

(Reproachfully) Lupin !

Sonia

Lupin

Ah, yes I forgot ... This is going to be difficult .

Guerchard, your watch , old , friend .

(Put watch on sofa R C)

Sonia

Be quick we must get out of this .

(They start up towards door L C)

Run away ! Never ! Hush ! One of Guerchard's men .

Ili you !

(Enter AGENT OF POLICE LC and Victoire)

Lupin

Chief

Agent

Lupin

Agent ! Lupin is in the lift , Boursin captured him and
is

taking him down .

Agent

Lupin?

Lupin He made himself up like me .

Yes . Don't be deceived by his disguise. There are only
those two in the lift' Boursin and Lupin . Watch him
well .

if he gives trouble shash him .

I'll do it Governor .

Agent

Lupin

When it is all over , take this bomb to the municipal laboratory .

(To Sonia and Victoire)

Come , you two to the police station . Look on Arsene

Lupin

39

henceforth as dead . It was Love that killed him .

Lovel

(Lupin presses the catch of the elevator to make it

descend then exits after Victoire and Sonia . A

noise of bolts is heard . The elevator descends . Guer-

chard and Boursin leap out, the AGENT rushes

towards

them with pistol drawn)

Halt or I fire ! Agent

What ?

Guerchard

Agent

So you've rigged yourself up as the chief!

(Jumps on him)

Pool ! Blackhead!

Querchard

diot' Booby This is duerchard ! The other was
Arsene Lupin.

Boursin

Arsene Lupin!

Agent

(Boursin hastens to the door LC)

Guerchard

Locked ! Too late!

(Noise of motor heard . Guerchard rushes to window
RUE (No. 3)

I'm damned if he hasn't stolen my motor !

CURTAIN.

END OF PLAY

40